



# WITHIN A CITY

# THREE DISTINCT RESORTS. ONE AMAZING EXPERIENCE.

With over 4,000 rooms, Reno's newest luxury spa, over 227,000 square feet of casino action, 25 restaurants, 22 bars and lounges and 11 nightspots, THE ROW is Reno's ultimate destination.





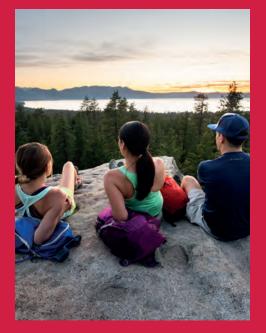






# THERE MUST BE SOMETHING IN THE WATER

















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# **FOLLOW THE SYMBOLS**

There's no wrong combo or way to do it. Just your way. Whatever your interests, these corresponding icons are here to help you find tips that speak to them.









DRINK









CHECK? PLEASE! (THIS MEANS DON'T MISS IT.)



ADVENTURE STATE/NATIONAL





LODGING









If you're reading the digital version of this guide, tap or click the blue links for a direct route to whatever catches your eye.



I'm delighted that you have chosen the Silver State as your next adventure. Nevada's open roads and scenic byways offer some remarkable surprises—and each one holds an experience of its own that's sure to please any traveler.

Nevada is home to more natural hot

springs than any other state in the nation, and you can experience one along the "Loneliest Road in America." Explore one of our state's many ghost

towns from our astounding mining era along the Free-Range Art Highway. Stargaze under the darkest skies in the U.S. at Great Basin National Park, and then enjoy unparalleled dining and nightlife in the entertainment capital of the world—all within our state.

embark on an epic outdoor journey or indulge in world-class shopping and big city life, why not enjoy it all in one trip? Our state isn't just large in size, it's also large on endless indoor and outdoor entertainment and adventure. Explore Valley of Fire's blazing red and orange

rock formations before watching a world-class show on the Las Vegas Strip. Take in the sights of



I hope you enjoy one of the many wide-open adventures our great state has to offer, and make some incredible memories along the way.

Reno's art and mural scene before hitting one of Tahoe's powder-packed ski resorts.

All you need is a vehicle and a sense of adventure—Nevada will provide the rest.

Governor Steve Sisolak

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Special thanks to our partners who provided photographs and information for this guide. We also owe some major kudos to those intrepid Nevada-philes who got down and dirty in our great state and shared proof with us via social media. That said, while we are honored to showcase images of their adventures in this guide, doing so does not constitute any official endorsement by TravelNevada of any other content these users may be responsible for on their accounts or anywhere else.

Furthermore, throughout this guide, Instagram handles are diligently credited to every user who submitted content. If a user changes (or has changed) their account handle, it is the responsibility of the user to inform us, if they wish an update to be made to how we credit them. However, if you see an image of yours that is attributed improperly, please contact us at the email address above so we can appropriately recognize you in future editions or placements.

Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this guide, please contact the businesses, services and event coordinators to verify specific details and obtain the most upto-date information.





Nevada is vast and vastly more beautiful, fascinating, and complex than 'The Hangover' would have you believe.

By Sarah Feldberg | Matador Network



Tremember the first time I saw a tumbleweed. I was just outside Las Vegas, picking up my Toyota Corolla from the back of a moving truck, all of my earthly possessions wedged inside its compact interior. A tumbleweed rolled down the shoulder of the road as I gaped at this everyday marvel. *Huh*, I thought. *They really do tumble*.



# All the clichés are just a tiny glimpse of the gorgeous complexity down below.

contradictions, the domain of cowboys and card sharks, where fortunes have been made and squandered, legends born and sacrificed.

No matter where you stand in the 36th state, you're pretty much never more than 30 minutes from wide-open land. When I first moved from the East Coast—where suburbs sprawl for hours—Las Vegas shocked me. Here I could see the hard edge where civilization stopped, the final line where neighborhoods gave way to unfiltered earth, yellow-flowered creosote, yucca, and Joshua trees.



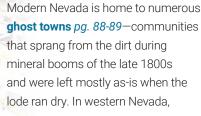
The federal government owns 85% of the state, and wilderness in Nevada takes many forms. It's the wooded peaks of the **Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest** *pg. 76-79*, the largest national forest in the continental US; the soft, earthy **slot canyons of Cathedral Gorge** *pg. 72-74*, just wide enough for a person to squeeze through; and the silica-

specked ridges of **Sand Mountain** *pg. 94-95*, which rise 600 feet from the ground like dusty waves, beckoning off-roaders on dirt bikes and ATVs.

In **Great Basin National Park** *pg. 46*, you'll hike past gnarled bristlecone pines that have outlasted empires and gaze into night skies so dark they burst with light. At the Tule Springs Fossil Beds, you'll explore an Ice Age graveyard, where the remains of mammoths, dire wolves, ground sloths, and giant lions are preserved in the rock.

There are snow-capped summits where **helicopters** *pg.* 96-97 drop off skiers and snowboarders; **soakable hot springs** *pg.* 86-87

that bubble from the earth, hours from the nearest day spa; and sun-baked valleys where plants and animals cling to life with time-tested grit. Here, suburbanites hunt scorpions by blacklight and bighorn sheep hang out on the playground.



IG: @QUINNLOWREY

Great Basin National Park







year for a week and then vanish into the dust? Nevada is the perfect mix of spectacle and void, a place of **showgirls** *pg.* 105 and working parents and **cowboy poets** *pg.* 112—with a whole lot of empty range in between.

I fell for the pull-the-car-over sunsets, the interminable sunshine, and the stupefying thunderstorms that hit like the end of days. I fell for the history, the tales of Nevada's wild and woolly past when **Wyatt Earp** *pg.* 66-69 walked boomtown streets, when the **Rat Pack ruled the Strip** *pg.* 56-59, and when

# So eventually, I fell for Nevada.

miners struck gold in **Rhyolite** *pg.* 88-89 in 1905, drawing 5,000 people to the town—which soon sported spiffy concrete sidewalks, police and fire departments, a public pool, and 50 saloons. But fortunes fade as quickly as they bloom, and the mines were closing by 1911 (electricity was shut off three years later). Today, Rhyolite is a relic, a curiosity where you can ogle a home built from glass bottles and wander the **15-acre art experiment nearby** *pg.* 30-31.

In Goldfield, artists planted the rusted-out hulks of buses and sedans to form the **International Car Forest of the Last Church**, pg. 30-31 a bizarre landmark that inspires pilgrimages. Outside Las Vegas, Ugo Rondinone's neon **Seven Magic Mountains** pg. 86-87 are Instagram catnip, while Michael Heizer's massive "earthworks" use the land itself as a canvas. Where else could a **psychedelic city of 70,000** pg. 50 spring up every

IG: @ALEXISON Rhyolite

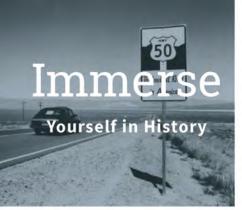
IG: @FLYFREE LILBIRD thin in the goldwell Open Air Museum

City to go to

the Mob reputedly ran every worthwhile joint in town. I fell for **Samuel Clemens debuting the name Mark Twain** *pg.* 66-69 in a Virginia City newspaper, Clark Gable passing three torturous days in the **Pioneer Saloon** *pg.* 98-99, and **Howard Hughes** *pg.* 66-69 buying the Desert Inn casino because he didn't want to vacate the penthouse, or so the stories go.

I fell for Nevada not in spite of its contradictions but because of them. Because this state is still untamed, unknowable, and gloriously rough around the edges. Because it's a place where tumbleweeds really tumble, and all the clichés are just a tiny glimpse of the gorgeous complexity down below. I love Nevada because there's still so much to learn. And no matter how long I'm here, there always will be.

# I fell for Nevada not in spite of its contradictions but because of them.















# **Closer Than You Think**















**NEVADA ROAD TRIPS** 

# "WE'RE ADVENTUROUS—NOT CRAZY!"

From weird weather that rolls in from nowhere to roads that seem to point there, you never know what you'll encounter in this awesomely uncanny state. Part of the fun? You bet. But let's keep it that way with a few tips, road rules, and general bits of wisdom to prep you for your unforgettable Nevada experience.

TRAVELNEVADA.COM/PLAN

**HOLD UP NOW!** This guide is different from other guides. You can read it cover to cover if you really want to...

But as with every adventure-er, every adventure is different—and ought to be. Which is why we've made it easy to weave together your very own.

Fancy yourself a foodie? A die-hard history buff? A thrill-seeking adventure junkie? Well dang, all of the above and beyond? Whatever passion you're chasing, there's a good chance you'll find it all over Nevada—as well as all throughout this guide. Because, now, **there's an icon for** that. So go ahead; spot the symbols, flip around, and hatch your very own plan of attack.

# FOLLOW YOUR CURIOSITY





























Because in the story of your life, a Nevada road trip is the ultimate opportunity to write a bold new chapter.





We don't recommend it.

In July 1986, Life magazine described Nevada's Highway 50

as the **Loneliest Road in America**. The article said there were no attractions or points of interest along the original stretch of road and warned drivers not to risk traveling the route—unless they had "survival skills."

However, Nevadans knew better then and know better now.

Because, sure, Highway 50 is wide and open. But isn't that part of the allure?

As it happens, this storied road is also your link to unsurpassed recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, climbing, camping, RV-ing, off-roading, motorcycling, horseback riding, sandboarding, stargazing, saloon-hopping, and even hot springing. No matter your pleasure, while you're out here chasing it, you're bound to enjoy exploring the road's endless vistas; friendly full-service communities; and wonderfully historic towns filled with characters who can spin a yarn that'll keep you mesmerized for hours and yearning to hear more.

Game, on,

380 miles [612 km] Carson City to Baker 6.5 hours



# FREY RANCH ESTATE DISTILLERY & CHURCHILL VINEYARDS

Frey Ranch is home to Churchill Vineyards, Nevada's first estate winery. It is also one of the nation's only estate distilleries, specializing in vodka, gin, whiskey, and even absinthe. Open Saturday afternoons.



Need a rec? Get a light menu of Silver State specials on pg. 98-101

### SAND MOUNTAIN

Sand Mountain is a six-storytall sand dune created by geological forces over several millennia. Today the area is popular with photographers and thrill-seeking off-roaders.

Get more off-roading info on pg. 94-95







# NEVADA'S STATE CAPITAL

While Carson City's mid-19th century roots proudly show in its historic homes and buildings, museums, and the capitol itself, the heart of picturesque downtown now beats with walkable streets lined with art, shops, hip bars, and bistros.





#LoneliestRoadInAmerica #NVRoadTrip



For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see **TravelNevada.com/LoneliestRoadInAmerica** 

### STOKES CASTLE

Towering over the Reese River Valley at Austin's western edge, Stokes Castle was modeled after a real Roman tower for a wellheeled mining magnate in the late 1890s. Today it stands as a solid monument to the town's mining-era grandeur.



In a tradition allegedly begun by guarrelsome lovers, this old tree bears no fruit, but instead plenty of pairs of shoes slung into the



Thirsty in Carson City? Hop in to Shoe Tree Brewing Co., named after this Loneliest Road icon.

## THE SHOE TREE

A couple miles east of Middlegate Station stands a sole-ful landmark to local lore. branches from passers-by.



# **EUREKA OPERA HOUSE**

Built in 1880, this architectural gem brought some Victorian high culture to the Wild West town of Eureka in the form of dances, operas, and masquerade balls. Explore the building for free or get lucky and catch a live performance.

# STARGAZER INN & KEROUAC'S **RESTAURANT**

Nestled against Great Basin National Park lies the small, artsy town of Baker-where gourmet cuisine, artisan cocktails, fine beer and wine, and cozy motel rooms delight weary travelers and park-goers at Stargazer Inn & Kerouac's Restaurant (open May-Oct).



Austin

Eureka

Middlegate

Kingston







**KINGSTON** Twenty minutes southwest of US-50 lies the lovely Miles End Lodge B&B, the legendary Lucky Spur Saloon, and spectacular Kingston Canyon.

Talk about a show stealer. Discover Great Basin National Park on pg. 46-47



BASIN

# **EAST ELY RAILROAD DEPOT MUSEUM AND NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY**

See what 1907 looked like at the frozen-in-time East Ely Railroad Depot Museum, gateway to the vast grounds of the Nevada Northern Railway, where you can catch a ride-or even be the engineeron a working steam locomotive

Celebrate the 150-Year Anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad with us. See pg. 106-107 for more info.



# **MIDDLEGATE STATION**

In the kitchen of this real-deal roadhouse-established in 1860 as a Pony Express station—there lurks a legend: the Middlegate Monster. Whether you slay this multi-pound burger beast or simply bask in the old-school ambiance, Middlegate Station is a must.



IG: @STUPIDDOPE

Did you know Middlegate also serves up great music? Check it out on pg. 110-111



We believe anyone who's ventured across the **Loneliest Road in America** deserves some recognition—not just bragging rights. So, let's make it official...



# **GET THE GUIDE**

Grab a copy of The Official Highway 50 Survival Guide, which you can order at PonyExpressNevada.com or pick up at any visitor's center along US-50.



# **LOOK FOR SIGNS**

Take it to any participating business, museum, visitor's center, or chamber



of commerce in Carson City, Dayton, Fernley, Fallon, Middlegate, Austin, Eureka, Ely, or Baker that displays the Official Stamp Location sign.



At each stop, have the back flap in your guide validated with that community's official stamp.

SURVIVAL GUIDE

BAKER AND GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

XMIAMA



# **GOT FIVE ON IT? SEND IT IN!**

Once you have the flap stamped in AT LEAST FIVE of the eight communities, fill in your name and address, tear off the back flap that doubles as a postage-paid postcard, and drop it in the mail to the Nevada Division of Tourism. In return, you'll receive an official Highway 50 souvenir and certificate to commemorate your successful survival of the Loneliest Road in America.

Are you a survivor?







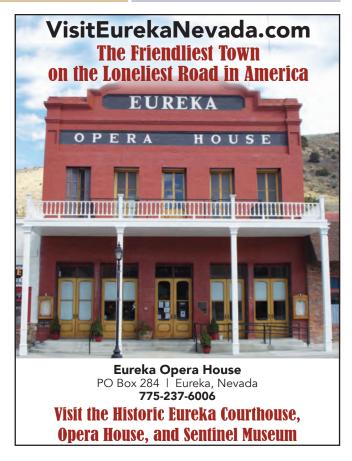
# In the middle of Nevada, no one can hear you scream.

As Highway 50 winds eastward through the Great Basin it passes through the town of Austin, smack in the middle of rural Nevada. With the expansive Toiyabe Mountain Range as its backyard, it features some of the best mountain biking, hiking and exploring in the state. And if you need some time to kick back, Austin has motels, restaurants and unique shops all along its historic Main Street. Austin, Nevada: where adventurous souls meet.

The Austin Chamber of Commerce ~ 775.964.2200 ~ AustinNevada.com









Vegas has it all. But venture beyond the neon and you'll be rewarded with some of Nevada's most alluring state parks, famous landmarks, and exciting attractions—and still get back in time for your dinner reservation, spa treatment, or Elvis-officiated wedding. Meanwhile, travelers looking to escape the urban hustle and bustle for a night or two will find plenty to justify their getaway in southern Nevada's other burgs, each with its own unique character and charm.

# Red Rockin' Loop: 85 miles [140 km]

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area—Spring Mountain Ranch State Park—Goodsprings

2.5 hours

# Fire & Water Loop: 215 miles [345 km]

Mesquite-Moapa Valley-Valley of Fire State Park-Lake Mead Scenic Route

4 hours

# Colorado River Corridor: 207 miles [330 km]

Las Vegas-B<mark>oulder City-Hoover Dam-La</mark>ughlin **3.75 hours** 

# RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA .....



Hands-down one of the most breathtaking places in the Silver State, nearly 2 million people come here to explore red-banded canyons, towering sandstone peaks, and ancient petroglyphs. With some of the best vertical

Belay on! Head to pg. 84-85 for more rock-solid recs and a real-life Red Rock climber's chronicle

routes on the continent, it's also a (literally) natural home for Red Rock Rendezvous, a "dirtbag" celebration of all things climbing-related, which kicks back off in 2020.

# SPRING MOUNTAIN RANCH STATE PARK







# PIONEER SALOON

Boy, if these original stamped tin walls could talk... This century-old watering hole—the set

of countless movies and television shows remains home to legends, folklore, Food Networkworthy fare, and excellent company, all washed down with some notoriously killer Bloody Marys. Photo by DarrellCraigHarris.com

# SEVEN MAGIC MOUNTAINS

This polychromatic cult-classic photo-op is definitely worth at least a selfie or three.





Find out more about the Nevada Museum of Art's Seven Magic Mountains on pg. 30-31







# **MESQUITE**

TURN TO LEARN more about this oasis beckoning just an hour out of Las Vegas. Resort getaways, art, culture, great restaurants, and golf galore... all set against the paradise of the Virgin River Valley.

# THE SCENIC ROUTE

If you have time, take it. Northshore Road gently winds from Overton back toward Vegas (or vice versa), hugging Valley of Fire, with vistas out to Lake Mead, Gold **Butte National Monument, and even** peaks of Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument. Watch for wild horses!

# **GOLD BUTTE NATIONAL MONUMENT**

Designated in 2016, this 300,000-acre wonderland dazzles with striking sandstone rock formations,

thousands of petroglyphs and rock art, and Depression-era structures.

**TravelNevada Pro Tip:** This is serious backcountry. Remoteness, rugged roads, and sweltering summers are only fun if you are prepared to survive them. Do your homework and come prepared.

# OAPA VALLEY 8 LOST CITY MUSEUM

This tranquil agrarian valley, serendipitously nestled between Valley of Fire and Lake Mead, shines with the small-town allures of Overton, Logandale, Glendale, and Moapa, but today's visitors and residents weren't its first fans. Stop by the **Lost City Museum** for a glimpse into the life of the Ancestral

Puebloans, near where archaeologists fortuitously uncovered an entire city.



LAS **VEGAS** 

LAUGHLIN -

TURN TO LEARN about Nevada's southernmost community, a prime destination for outdoor enthusiasts, families, and anyone else craving a little R&R on the edge of the Colorado River.



For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see TravelNevada.com/Neon-to-Nature



Mesquite

LAKE

**MEAD** 

**Hoover Dam** 

LAKE **MOHAVE** 

**Boulder City** 

**COLORADO** 

.aughlin

**RIVER** 

## **VALLEY OF FIRE STATE PARK**

Just 55 miles beyond Las Vegas, Nevada's first and largest state park formed when dinosaurs roamed. Take in unparalleled vistas of—or atop—unearthly sandstone formations and keep your eyes peeled for calling cards from Nevada's earliest human ancestors; these natural canvases are rich with petroglyphs.

#### **HOOVER DAM**

• Without this thing, there would be no Vegas. Located on the Colorado River, this world-famous marvel of the engineering world welcomes more than 7 million visitors a year who take guided tours, peer down 700 feet (213 m) down into **Black Canyon**, or photograph it from the overarching 880-ft-tall (268 m), 1,905-ft-long (580 m) Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge



BOULDER CITY

TURN TO LEARN about the quiet, charming Art Deco extravaganza and Colorado River recreation hub perched just 25-ish minutes (and yet an entire world away) from the Strip.



# TECHATTICUP MINE. **ELDORADO CANYON**

The site of Nevada's very first gold strike-by Spaniards way back in the 1700s—this ghost town packs a combined punch with its stunning Mojave scenery, grisly Wild West history, and artifact-strewn movie-set quality photo-ops galore.



TravelNevada Pro Tip: Take the mine tour.

# **MESQUITE** Find Your Flavor

Situated in the astounding, sunset-rich Virgin River Valley, this easygoing resort town captures the very best of small-town life and big-city attractions at the same time.

# Golf

Welcome to a golfer's paradise. With 300 sunny days annually, it's hard to find a part of the year without a worthwhile tee time. Eight distinct courses—all within a few minute's drive—have been sculpted out of the fantastical landscape, including world-famous Wolf Creek, a regular on the planet's top "Best Of" lists year after year.

# Mesquite Fine Arts Center & Gallery

One of Nevada's proudest art institutions, this art-lover's oasis unites nearly 200 local artists to showcase handmade gifts and jewelry; original paintings, sculpture, ceramics, fabric arts, and photography; and handmade glass and furniture exhibits. *Free admission*.

# Virgin Valley Heritage Museum

This museum not only tells the region's fascinating history, but is also actually a piece of it itself. One of two Pueblo Revivalstyle buildings in the state (the other: **Lost City Museum**), it immerses visitors in the lives of the area's first American Indian inhabitants and early settling pioneers with priceless artifacts in permanent and rotating exhibits.

# **BOULDER CITY** Small Town. Big Adventure.

Established in 1931 as a planned, casino-free community, the relaxed, park-lined, spotlessly-manicured "town that built Hoover Dam" delights visitors with its preserved Art Deco aura, visible history on every corner, quaint shops, amazing eats, and right-there access to Hoover Dam and tons of Colorado River and Lake Mead recreation.

# Historic District

Boulder City is lucky. Decades after its construction, over 400 vintage structures and their mostly Art Deco stylings still stand, functioning today as shops, cafés, galleries, and antique emporiums. Even the bowling alley highlights this highly walkable town's timewarp essence.

# Boulder Dam Hotel

Built in 1933 to quarter Hoover
Dam bigwigs and government
mucky-mucks, this luxurious
property quickly became a go-to
getaway for dignitaries and
celebrities. Today this Colonial
Revival-style gem, listed on the
National Register of Historic
Places, harbors opulent rooms, art
galleries, a brunch café, and the
Boulder City-Hoover
Dam Museum.

# Boulder City—Hoover Dam Museum

Construction of the colossal Hoover Dam remains a monumental feat of engineering. However, through interactive exhibits and authentic artifacts, this fascinating museum (aptly situated in the **Boulder Dam Hotel**) does not simply tout the building of the dam itself, but also investigates the everyday lives of workers and families and the social forces that brought them there.

# Back On Track

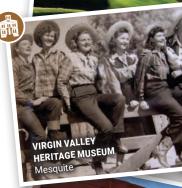
Last year, the original 1930s route of the Nevada Southern Railway was restored, reconnecting Boulder City to Henderson for the first time since 1985.

# **Colorado River Recreation**

Want to kick it up a notch? Boulder City is also the launchpad to some thrilling outdoor action, such as hiking or biking through mountains in the Historic Railroad Tunnel Trail or the 34-mile-long, nonmotorized River Mountains Loop Trail, kayaking into Hoover Dam's shadow along the Black Canyon Water Trail, some of southern Nevada's best mountain bike trails,

Take a ride. More MTB action on pg. 90-93

and the adrenaline-sparking 2,000-foot zipline at Flightlinez Bootleg Canyon.



**WOLF CREEK** Mesquite





BLACK CANYON, Colorado River



Arizona converge is the always-sunny city of Laughlin. And if three million visitors a year are any indication, Nevada's riverfront city has certainly earned its place as the region's leading tourist destination.

# On the Water

AUGHLIN'S

ASSIC CARS

rside Resort

Everyone comes to Laughlin to enjoy the mighty Colorado River-but not just from their dinner table, hotel room, or even barstool (you get it;

the views are pretty great here). Visitors looking to make the most of this Mojave town's endlesssummer climate can take on the current in a kayak or canoe, or rip around on jet skis. Fishermen can angle for crappie, bluegill, trout, and striper bass. Those with a need for speed can hop on a London Bridge Jet Boat Tour for an afternoon and blast down to one of the Southwest's odder landmarks: actual London

Bridge, transported from England to nearby Lake Havasu City, AZ.

# On the Land

Grab a frosty libation and wander between several riverfront casinoresort properties (don't worry; that's legal here), whose shops, cafés, brewpubs, and gaming floors all connect along the bank-hugging Riverwalk. Hikers and equestrians have their pick of scenic trails and paths throughout the Colorado River Heritage Greenway Park and **Trails** system—each with its own spectacular perspective of the river or surrounding mountain landscapewhile beachfront picnickers find serenity at Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area.

# On the Calendar

There's always something big going down in Laughlin. From Spartan Races to off-road rallies, the Laughlin River Run (possibly the biggest, wildest celebration of motorcycle culture on the West Coast) to the Laughlin River Regatta (definitely the biggest, wildest inner tube float... probably anywhere), or all the big-ticket concerts at the Laughlin Events Center, there's always something fun coming 'round the bend down here.





#### **LAKE TAHOE**

Dozens of sandy beaches, thousands of hiking and biking trails, 190 square miles of mesmerizingly clear water ripe for scenic cruises and SUPs...13 ski resorts, endless terrain for snowmobiles and sleigh rides...world-class entertainment. luxurious hotels. and top-notch restaurants...if this picture calls your

name, you and Tahoe's other 3 million visitors a year can't be wrong.



Map out your next Nevada state park moments on pg. 72-73



.how to dip your toes into some



They call it the "Jewel of the Sierra Nevada" and once you've seen it... you get it. Vast, crystal-clear, and encircled by towering alpine peaks, Lake Tahoe is a summertime paradise, a winter wonderland, and a year-round haven for unforgettable mountain memories. But Tahoe ain't the only gem in the box!

From wild-western Virginia City to idyllic Carson Valley, or the historic capital of Carson City to hip-andhappening Reno, just



145 Miles [235km]

Reno to Lake Tahoe via Virginia City, Carson City, and Carson Valley

3.5 hours

over the hill lie some of Nevada's most intriguing destinations, iconic history, and best-kept secrets.

In fact, whether you piece together a daytrip or spring for a multi-day excursion, with all of these distinct locales woven into one tight circuit, the Lake Tahoe Loop may be one of the most diverse—and accessible—road trips in the Silver State.





🚹 🏏 🧿 #LakeTahoeLoop #NVRoadTrip



For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see TravelNevada.com/Lake-Tahoe-Loop

## **GENOA**

In 1851, the Mormon traders who built Nevada's first official settlement probably didn't guess that, nearly 170 years later, folks would still flock here—especially to visit the state's oldest saloon. In addition to Genoa Bar's stellar suds, this picturesque hamlet is known for its delicious

cafés, charming inns, intriguing shops, and glimpses of Nevada history at the Courthouse Museum and Mormon Station State Historic Park.

TravelNevada Pro Tip: Want to really "soak in" some history? Check out the luxurious 1862 David Walley's Hot Springs Resort.



Always respect the springs. Learn how on pg. 86-87

#### **MINDEN**

When it comes to charm, Minden is clearly on the same team as its next-door neighbor. Gardnerville. Other plots to win your heart include summer street fairs,

the frozen-in-time **Dangberg** Home Ranch Historic Park,

top-tier concerts at Carson Valley Inn, anything off the menu (or vast beer

list) at Minden Meat & Deli-all to be joined

this year by Bently

Heritage Distillery, one of the country's only estate distilleries.





Fill up your trip (and glass) with more Nevada-grown tastes on pg. 100-101

#### **VIRGINIA CITY**

Think Disneyland's "Frontierland," except real (and with way more saloons). One-hundred fifty years of history vibes meet a nonstop

stream of present-day festivities in a fun-loving,



Did you know Virginia City is the "birthplace" of Mark Twain? Flip to pg. 66-69 to meet him and more Legendary Nevadans

film-set-quality town that loves its 17 museums, cute shops, and gunfight shows as much as its outhouse races, giant parades, and annual themed saloon crawls.

TURN TO LEARN... -.how to tackle one of Nevada's liveliest towns.

**LAKE** 

# **RENO**

Maybe it's the sizzling culinary scene and dozens of local breweries

and distilleries. Or the electrifying music scene and art radiating off every corner. Or, if you're about that casino life, the round-the-clock entertainment and on-site-everything of an outstanding resort. Whatever you're after, these days, if you can't find it in Reno, it probably was never that cool anyhow.

> TURN TO LEARN, PG. 50... Dive deeper into the Reno scene

RENO

Virginia City

CARSON

Minden

CITY **LAKE** Genoa

Gardnerville

# **GARDNERVILLE** ..

In the heart of Carson Valley, against the Sierra Nevada, this easygoing town's flowery streets were designed for strolling. Amble among century-old buildings to window shop for local art, crafts, and antiques, to peruse the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural

Center, or to hop between hearty restaurants, lively saloons, and the iconic JT Basque

dinner house-then ask yourself why all towns can't be as idyllic as this one.



Even before statehood in 1864, Nevada's capital connected everything else on this road trip-from the lumber bases of Lake Tahoe to the silver shafts of Virginia City, the bread basket of Carson Valley to the westward gateway of Reno. Those stories still flourish, especially along downtown's self-guided Blue Line Tour, on the tracks at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, in the Nevada

State Museum (housed in the former U.S. Mint), and at Stewart Indian School.



Check out more Nevada museums on pg. 103-107



Help yourself to more Basque cuisine on pg. 36-37



With 72 miles (116 km) of pristine shoreline hemming in 191 square miles (490 km²) of brisk, opaline water, "Big Blue" weighs in as North America's largest alpine lake—and with 1,645 feet (501 m) between your paddleboard and the bottom, it's also the country's second deepest. (Try not to drop your phone.)

Wanna get out there? Recreational opportunities abound around the one-third of Lake Tahoe that sits on the **#NevadaSide**, which remains far less developed than California's slice—except in the border towns of Crystal Bay and Stateline, where world-renowned casino resorts bring the party 24 hours a day.

There is so much to do at Lake Tahoe that it could (and does) fill books... check

out these starter tips, then head to **TravelNevada.com** for a boatload more.

# Tahoe North

The rustic hamlet of Incline Village relishes its quieter, old Tahoe charm with fine bistros, luxurious lodging, two beautiful golf courses, fireside cocktails at the beachfront **Lone Eagle Grille**, and the unsurpassed lake views of family-sized **Diamond Peak Ski Resort**.

**Crystal Bay** does its duty as Tahoe's north-shore border town with gaming, great concerts, and lodging at a few classic properties, like **Crystal Bay Casino** and the **Tahoe Biltmore**.

# Tahoe South

On and off the water or slopes, this is where the action is. Several hotel-casinos anchor Stateline's buzzing entertainment scene, a short walk from

#### **WINTER IS COMING**

300 to 500 inches of powdery Sierra snow annually means amazing downhill at 13 area resorts, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, dog-sledding, sleigh rides, and more.

Flip to pg. 96-97 to warm up your winter legs











# LAKE TAHOE NEVADA STATE PARK

Made up of several areas, there is no better way to experience Tahoe's range of scenery. Spooner Lake and the Marlette/Hobart Backcountry offer off-grid bliss for anglers, hikers, and mountain bikers—including

unbeatable views from the legendary Flume Trail. The Cave Rock day-use area includes a boat launch and sandy beach. The Highway 28 corridor is dotted with secluded beaches accessed by trail or water. Sand Harbor, possibly Tahoe's most striking sandy beach, delights sunbathers, boaters, SUP-ers, wintertime sleigh riders, and even theatre-goers at its annual summertime Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival.

Hitting the harbor? Ditch the car, escape parking woes, and stay safe on the long-awaited SR-28 SHARED USE PATH, a 3-mile paved trail uniting Incline Village and Sand Harbor-slated to open to cyclists and pedestrians Spring 2019.













800.23.TAHOE • zephyrcove.com



Scenic Daytime and Evening Dinner Lake Cruises, Marina Activities, Cabins, RV Park, Snowmobile Tours, Lodge Restaurant, Beach Bar and Grill, and Horseback Riding.







Wandering the boardwalk-lined streets and original buildings in this old mining town, it's easy to believe you've "Stepped Back in Time" to the 19th century. Then again, while dancing to a Western swing band with locals clad in Victorian dresses, cavalry uniforms, and other bygone Western getups at a place called the Bucket of Blood Saloon, it's hard NOT to.





A bona fide boomtown, Virginia City rocketed into existence seemingly overnight, thanks to America's first major silver strike in 1859. The mind-bogglingly large *Comstock Lode* quickly shaped the town into a bustling, rough-and-tumble mining center that overflowed with unimaginable wealth and prosperity, attracting 25,000 fortune-seekers at its peak.

Today, Virginia City is home to about 1,000 residents and some of the most beautifully preserved homes, churches, saloons, cemeteries, and other historic structures in the West—a claim to fame that earned *the entire town a spot on the National Register of Historic Places*.

History buffs can fill days **museum** hopping (there are 17 of 'em). Tours are



Museums, you say? Right this way pg. 103-107

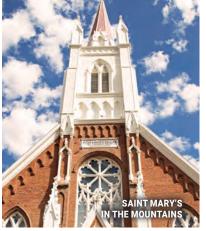
plentiful—on foot or trolley, self-guided or expert-led, around town or in a mine, or even in a haunted building in what some experts claim is the most paranormally active place in the US.

And yet, as exciting as the town's past is, if there's one thing "V.C." knows how to do, it's live in the moment. Time it right and you may find yourself crawling among **12 Old West saloons**, catching



Pore over more sip-worthy spots on pg. 100-101









Check out more Nevada events on pg. 112-115



competing chili or Rocky Mountain oyster recipes, cheering on a holiday parade, or generally whooping it up at one of the town's dozens of raucous, street-closing, crowddrawing weekend events.

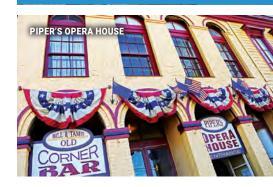
a show at Piper's Opera House, rooting for camel or outhouse racers, tasting

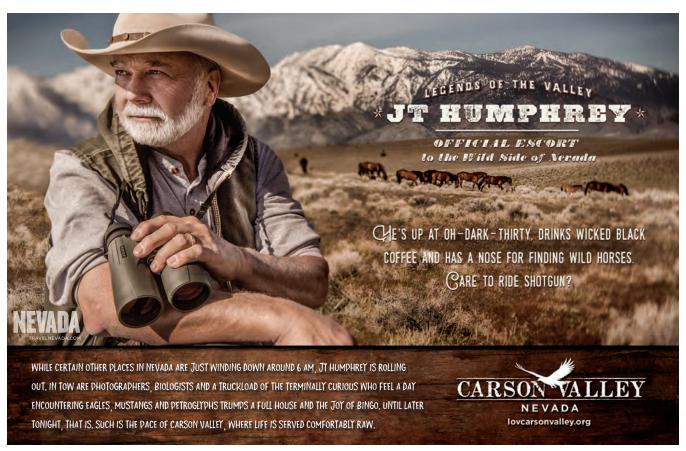
With so much to do in one of Nevada's most unique places, it's no wonder a million visitors venture up the hill each year to get immersed in history, all while making a little of their own.



# Download the App

There's a lot to see, eat, drink, and do here. Get the Virginia City app for info, news, a historical audio tour, and more. Find it on the App Store and Google Play.







With its stark desertscapes, thermometer-shattering climate, and all-around extreme reputation, Death Valley is a natural centerpiece for a road trip that visits ghost towns, rugged biker bars, and a charming little family-run coffin shop (nope, not a typo).

However, as the region's tenacious flora and fauna have known for millennia, life out here is all about balance.

That's why this route is also flush with plenty of lifeaffirming pleasures, from Pahrump's elegant vineyards to the natural splendor of Desert National Wildlife Refuge and the montane wilderness of nearly 12,000-foot (3,660 m) Mount Charleston—one of Nevada's tallest peaks—which, just a stone's throw from the lowest point in North America (Death Valley's Badwater Basin), is just one of the many mesmerizing contrasts you're about to try and wrap your head around on this one



# 315 miles [505 km]

Las Vegas to Death Valley Featuring Pahrump, Amargosa Valley, Beatty, and Spring Mountains

5.5 hours



As far as houses built entirely from medicine, beer, and whiskey bottles go, Rhyolite's is the oldest and largest in the US.

#### RHYOLITE GHOST TOWN

Once home to 5,000 fortune-seekers, Rhyolite was abandoned 100 years ago, but its iconic buildings



still dazzle film crews, more photographers than any other Nevada ghost town, and anyone craving one of the state's best vestigial glimpses of the boomtown era.



Get down on more ghost towns on pg. 88-89



see TravelNevada.com/The-Death-Drive





#TheDeathDrive #NVRoadTrip

#### **COFFINWOOD**

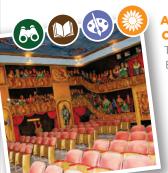
If you're into coffin-shaped furniture, jewelry, purses, pingpong tables, or really anything else (including actual coffins), this is your joint. Even if you're not, touring this coffin-themed home, workshop, and wedding chapel makes for some undying memories By appointment only.



Trust us: it gets weirder. Just how we like it! Feed your need for some

#WEIRDNEVADA

Check out pg. 62-65



# **OPERA HOUSE**

The show must go on? Marta Becket, the late proprietress of this far-flung auditorium, certainly thought so, performing opera for over 40 years to whoever turned up in minuscule Death Valley Junction—as well as to the permanent guests she painted on its walls.

Photo by Steve Diffenbacher

#### **HAPPY BURRO CHILI & BEER**

In a town where burros (wild donkeys) happily roam the streets, Beatty's human visitors chase their own pleasures at this rustic family-run saloon serving, well, homemade chili and ice-cold



See what else is cookin' around the state on pg. 98-99

beer. Watch out for the Beatty Cowboys who often post up on nearby stools.

#### **BASIN AND RANGE**

At 1.5 million acres, **Desert National** Wildlife Refuge is the largest national wildlife refuge in the continental United States, and one of the largest intact habitats for desert bighorn sheep. If you

need to elevate your itinerary, the **Spring** 

**Mountains** offer

316,000 acres of diverse recreation opportunities (even skiing) on the turf of **Mount Charleston,** 

Nevada's fifthtallest peak. Photo by Sharon K. Schafer/DNWR



TURN TO LEARN... -...what's hot about this must-visit park.

Beatty Rhyolite



**DEATH VALLEY** 

Straddling the border

California, just 160

of The Strip, lies

largest national park

in the Lower 48, and the hottest, driest, and lowest one in the entire country

Death Valley—the

miles (198 km) west

of Nevada and

**Pahrump** 

LAS VEGAS



**LAKE MEAD** 



We grow our own. Indulge yourself on Nevada's estate-grown wine and spirits on pg. 100-101

# **PAHRUMP WINERIES**

Some folks are already astonished to learn there's water in the Mojave. Pahrumpians take it even further with not one but two estate wineries. Sanders Family Winery-Nevada's first modern winemakers—and Pahrump Valley Winery both host tours on their scenic grounds.

TO LOS **ANGELES** 

# **MOUNTAIN SPRINGS SALOON**

It's easy to delay your journey by visiting one of the state's best biker bars, a suds-slinging pitstop known for its towering burgers, toothsome quesadillas, and last-Saturday-ofthe-month pig roasts (Mar-Oct).





landscape alive with incredible beauty, characterized by miles of deep sand dunes, technicolor rocks and canyons, rare and endemic wildlife, and jaw-dropping peaks that rise 11,000 feet above neighboring valleys.

Visitors to this unique park will also find a wreath of relics from its lengthy history that offer a glimpse into the harsh life of the area's early settlers and native inhabitants, including metal ore mines, charcoal kilns, ghost towns, petroglyphs, and ancient Shoshone foot trails.

Even if you're short on time (or heat tolerance), must-stops include the otherworldly Zabriskie Point overlook, searching for droids at Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes, and getting as low as you can go (in North America) at Badwater Basin-282 ft (86m) below sea level.



While accommodations are limited in the park itself, you'll find a wide range of great places to eat, drink, rest up, and even swim in Nevada's gateway communities.

# ON YOUR WAY

# Pahrump

50 min. from entrance

With 40,000 residents, Pahrump offers the area's most robust selection of casino resorts, motels, RV parks, restaurants, bars, supermarkets, pharmacies, auto shops, and other precious luxuries of civilization-with two lovely wineries and a water-powered jetpack adventure facility, to boot!

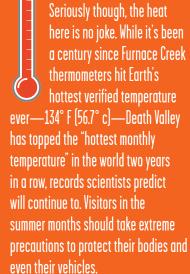
# Beatty

#### 25 min. from entrance

This friendly mining town greets the sunbaked traveler with several motels and comforting cafés, a top-notch coffee shop, and a few classic saloons serving frosty, hard-earned libations. Be

sure to swing by the **Beatty Museum & Historical** Society, nearby Rhyolite





Ghost Town, and the abundantly stocked **Death** Valley Nut & Candy Co.

# Amargosa Valley

25 min. from entrance

G: @MARISSA.K.ON.TV

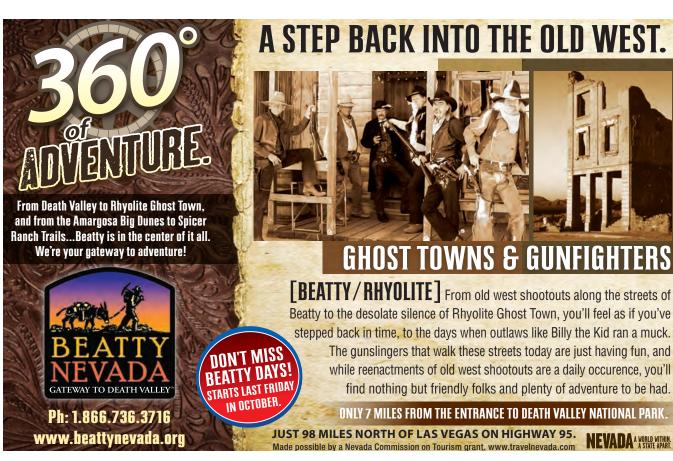
Rhyolite

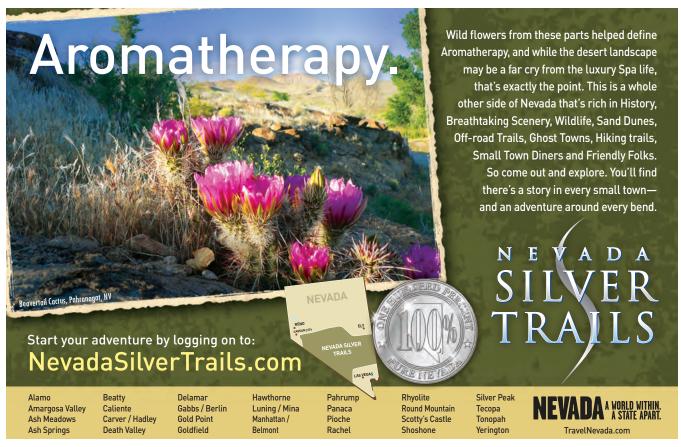
This small-but-mighty border community welcomes you back to the "Nevada side" with its Big Bovine sculpture and the equally unmissable Longstreet Inn. Casino & RV Resort—a modern 60-room (and 51-site) oasis home to 24-hour action at its casino, bar, two cafes, mini-mart, laundry, and swimming pool-

> across the street from the lively Stateline Saloon & Cafe, and a short drive from an all-things-alienthemed truck stop.



BIG BOVINE Photo by Steve Dudrow







Art looks good on every state... but in Nevada, it just fits.

for some reason, on US-95 between Las Vegas and Reno, there's a lot of stuff that's Nevada is full of talented traditional artists, with a long list of galleries and museums to sh<mark>ow for it. **But**</mark> just pretty dang out there—in more ways than one—which is exactly why we dig it.

from the desert floor...there is certainly enough eye-catching, camera-hogging art to grace Nevada's kinetic public sculptures our kids (OK, and plenty of us adults) can climb on, to **odd-ball objects rising** From colorful murals livening up entire neighborhoods and galleries filled with all manner of media, to urban districts, small towns, and even natural spaces with an exciting extra layer of flavor.

to-face with some of the most unique, unrestrained-or as we So whether you're livening up a Vegas-Reno run or treating your "palate" to an abstract adventure, be ready to get faceike to say—"free-range" art you may ever encounter.

# 475 miles [765 km]

as Vegas to Tonopah to Reno

7 hours

From 120-ish commissioned murals illuminating every street corner and dozens of "post-Playa" sculptures to



See what mural-aculous things happen when your whole town's a canvas on pg.108-109

Queen of the Silver Camps"—which

Tonopah Brewing Co., where a swanky after all 110 years) and

Stinkeye Porter pairs perfectly

with house-smoked brisket.

at the lavish Mizpah Hotel (still still brims with taste, especially

Several murals blanket Tonopah—

TONOPAH

discover why those creative types keep flocking to the fown-wide celebrations like Sculpture Fest, Off Beat Music Fest, and the month-long, 500-event Artown, unabashedly artist-friendly Biggest Little City.

Photo courtesy of Reno-Tahoo



-allon

RENO











Schurz

**Yerington** 

CARSON

LAKE TAHOE





### **GALLERIES GALORE**

Art galleries and studios line 18b's backbone, producing and exhibiting a wide range of styles and media, from surrealist paintings and ceramics to fine art and photography.

and a totally fresh, locally-driven flavor.

#### **HEART AND SOUL**

Right in the geographic and cultural heart of the district, pop into **The Arts Factory**, a converted warehouse where you can ogle art, try on jewelry, catch a poetry reading, or grab a libation. Then head across the street to **Art Square** for another helping of it all, in restored vintage buildings that also house the intimate **Cockroach Theatre Co.**, a swanky cocktail lounge, and even a wedding chapel (because Vegas).

#### **GRAFFITI ART GALLERY ALLEY**

With commissioned murals coating more and more businesses, this pair of multi-block, free-for-all outdoor canvases host a constant stream of naturally-replenishing street art.

# **ANTIQUE ALLEY**

with its self-described "cultural explosion" of art galleries, funky antique shops and boutiques, chic cafés and bars,

More than 20 independent shops sell retro furniture, vintage clothing, antiques, and other nifty wares—many oozing with the essence of the city's bygone eras. Get lost in **Antique Alley Mall** or browse the museum-like **Retro Vegas** for casino castoffs and other mid-mod swag. Get outfitted for the occasion with new-to-you duds from **Glam Factory Vintage** or the decidedly pin-up chic **Rockin' Bettie**.

# **BARS & BISTROS**

It may not be the Strip, but it's definitely still Vegas, so be sure to show up hungry and thirsty. With endless choices—from street tacos to haute cuisine, artisanal cocktails to siphon coffee—the cuisine scene here is as dynamic as the art. Try **Nevada Taste Site** for "Nevada-inspired" recipes and 20+ NV-brewed beers on draught; **Jammyland** for jerk chicken on the patio of a "Cocktail Bar & Reggae Kitchen;" and, of course, **ReBAR**—equal parts hip drinkery and retro furniture boutique. It may well be "the only bar where everything's for sale!"

# FIRST FRIDAY

This long-standing monthly festival, Las Vegas' premier arts and cultural event, draws around 15,000 visitors to one big districtwide block party, revolving around food, drink, live music, visual performances, and artists showing off their creations. **Preview Thursday** happens the day before, allowing serious art lovers to mingle with artists and browse without the crowds.



# Brush Up On Reno!

If 18b catches your eye, so will Reno's everywhere-you-look murals, dozens of retired Burning Man sculptures, and the hundreds of other public art pieces anchoring its rebirth as one of the nation's hottest destinations for artists to visit, live, and thrive. Head to pg. 50 for Reno Right Now.

# ALL ROADS LEAD TO NEVADA ART



...Not just **this** road trip. **Add art to your itinerary** in every wing of the Silver State.



# ST. MARY'S ART CENTER VIRGINIA CITY

Established in 1964, the Comstock's premier art gallery and creative space supports events, workshops, retreats, a year-round resident artist program, and seven galleries across four floors of an 1876 historical landmark hospital building.

# **DUNCAN LITTLECREEK GALLERY & BAR | ELKO**

The heart of Elko's edgier-than-you-mightathunk arts scene hosts an ever-changing, every-wall gallery featuring art of all media, including from the vivacious Wild Women Artists collective.

# **RENAISSANCE VILLAGE & ART BANK | ELY**

In its 20th year as a designated arts district, 20 murals and sculptures line Ely's historic downtown, while a former bank building harbors permanent collections and a converted vault gallery of for-sale paintings, jewelry, photography, and more.

#### **OATS PARK ART CENTER FALLON**

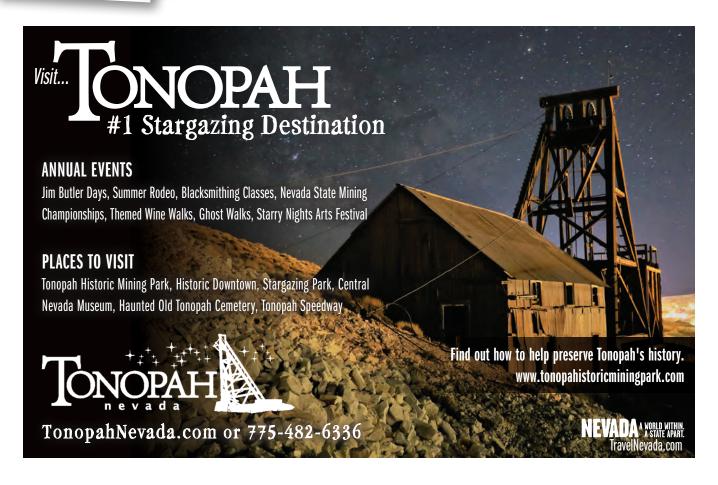
Class up your trip with this restored schoolhouse's 350-seat performing arts theater, rotating art exhibits in three museumstyle galleries, and the Art Bar, a delightfully Old-West-meetsurban café.

#### **MESQUITE FINE ARTS CENTER** MESQUITE

Possibly the un-stuffiest fine art gallery ever, this center reps nearly 200 regional artists, with monthly rotating exhibits, lectures, and classes

OATS PARK ART CENTER T. MARY'S ART CENTER Virginia City

What can we say? Nevada's an inspiring place.





Let's face it: Interstate 80 is a ribbon of highway most motorists expect to blast down, pedal-to-the-metal, on their way to somewhere, well... else.

Which is why they're all missing out.

Next time you're on it, enjoy those sections with 80 MPH speed limits. But when you see a town, SLOW DOWN. Because just down that offramp you'll discover lively, welcoming communities whose western roots still proudly show, and not simply because ranching and

gold mining remain ways of life here today.

It certainly ain't all cowboys out here—Basque and American Indian traditions shine bright,

too-but with guest ranches, art galleries, poetry festivals, and even pale ales all celebrating buckaroo tradition, few routes brim with as many of Nevada's western cultural legacies—and plenty of present-day attractions, too—as noticeably as the one we like to call the Cowboy Corridor.





#### WINNEMUCCA

Equal parts museum and shrine, the Buckaroo Hall of Fame honors the Great Basin's "Legendary Buckaroos"-some of whom likely saddled up at nearby Tip's Western Wear & Custom Saddlery, and all of whom probably ate steaks at Ormachea's and big Basque dinners at the historic Martin Hotel.



#### LOVELOCK

In front of the nation's last circular courthouse, couples help Lovelock live up to its name by "locking their love" to a never-ending chain. From here a 20-mile Backcountry Byway carries you to Lovelock Cave, an ancient shelter that



Meet Legendary Nevadan Mike Williams, modern master of this ancient craft, on pg. 66-69



**RENO** 

5.75 hours

Despite being Nevada's largest (and hippest) northern city, Reno still embraces its western heritage. Boot

up at the D Bar **M Western Store** on your way to celebrate the Reno Rodeo's 100th birthday, then head to Louis' Basque Corner for a round of picon punches.



Northeastern Nevada's biggest town is a confluence of Western cultures and a gateway to both the Ruby Mountains and some of Nevada's most surprising and untamed wilderness.

> TURN TO LEARN, PG. 42. Take a closer look at Elko

# J.M. CAPRIOLA CO. & **COWBOY ARTS AND GEAR MUSEUM**

Aching for world-famous custom saddles and leatherwork or not, swing into Cap's to browse the Western wares. Then check out their brand new museum and admire top-notch handiwork that's outfitted working buckaroos, Hollywood stars and collectors for more than a century.



# **CALIFORNIA TRAIL** INTERPRETIVE CENTER

As you plan the next leg of your own adventure, get some inspiration from the pioneers who endured the 2,000mile trek west at this fascinating, interactive interpretive center. Trust us: you'll never think about "seeing the elephant" the same way.



Rather get off the road and onto a trail, peak, slope, or alpine lake? Check out the Rubies Route on pg. 40-41

# /innemucca

TURN TO LEARN... Basque" You Say? Discover this fascinating (and tasty) part of Nevada's heritage on the next page.



Wendover



**Battle Mountain** 

## ovelock

**WEST WENDOVER** 

Wave back at Wendover Will, the 63-foot-tall neon cowboy welcoming you to this border-straddling community, home to the Historic Wendover Airfield Museum, several casinos boasting top-bill concert showrooms and spas, and the nearby Bonneville Salt Flats, America's foremost land speed proving grounds.



Concerts... sound good? Tune up on pg. 110-111





# **BATTLE MOUNTAIN**

Each September, engineers from around the globe flock to this town's perfectly flat tarmac, hoping to break records in the World Human Powered Speed Challenge (currently: 89.59 MPH). Meanwhile, the Cassorla Brothers offer their personal product (and expertise) at the Roller Coaster Fireworks Outlet and "mini-museum" year-round.

Get more only-in-Nevada events on your calendar on pg. 112-115





Poetry. Music. Cowboys? Gear up for the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, on pg. 112-115

Situated in the unmistakable old Pioneer Hotel, this unique institution is most famous for hosting the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering each January, but also houses a gallery with international exhibits, an artsy gift shop, a restored saloon, and events ranging from dance classes to cigar box guitar building workshops.





It's never long before a new visitor to northern Nevada finds themself face-to-face with a family-style Basque dinner—or at least mouth-to-glass with their first picon punch—either at the behest of a friendly local or on strict orders from a friend with a big enough heart (and stomach) to make sure this requisite regional meal does not get skipped.

# But what is Basque and why is that word all over the place up here?

Hailing from a mountainous New
Jersey-sized region straddling
France and Spain, the Basque people
came first for gold and later, in
the early 20th century, to put their
sheepherding skills to use in northern
Nevada's rugged hills and mountains.
It was a tough job, with many months
spent in solitude herding thousands

of sheep, but the Basques earned a reputation for dependability.

When they made it to town for supplies (or an off-season), they headed for the familiarity of Basquerun boarding houses where they could speak their unique language, eat, and drink with their fellow countrymen.

It was a hard lifestyle and many Basques went home. But those who stayed held onto their culture, weaving it into the fabric of their communities for generations to come, and its fingerprints are still highly visible today.



Celebrate with traditional music and dancing, woodchopping competitions, and chances aplenty to sample ethnic cuisine washed down with a picon... or three! July 5-7, Elko.





# THE PICON PUNCH i

Nevada's Unofficial State Drink

"The first two are the picon, the third is the punch!"



# CUISINE (





Getting peckish? Scope great eats all over the state on pg. 98-101

From chorizo and steak sandwiches at the bar to multi-course dinner house affairs featuring mains like lamb chops, huge steaks, and sweetbreads, and sides like oxtail soup and french fries, it's hard to leave hungry.

### **RENO**

Louis' Basque Corner

### **WINNEMUCCA**

The Martin Hotel (The original, built in 1898) Ormachea's Dinner House

#### **ELKO**

Toki Ona | The Star | Ogi Deli

## **CARSON CITY**

Villa Basque Café The Martin Hotel

## **GARDNERVILLE**

J.T. Basque Restaurant & Dining Room

# **FALLON**

**Overland Hotel & Saloon** 

# "One's plenty, two's too much, and three's not enough!"

These and plenty of other more, shall we say, colorful sayings (ask a local...) tell you a lot about this boozy-then-bitter-then-sweet liqueur-based cocktail, the small-but-mighty picon (PEE-khan) punch-Nevada's unofficial state drink. You'll love this sippable rite of passage, whether you like it or not!

COME JOIN US FOR THE 20th Anniversary of the

WORLD HUMAN POWERED SPEED CHALLENGE

SEPT. 8TH -14TH, 2019

EXTRA DAY OF RACING TO **CELEBRATE!** 







**PLEASE CONTACT THE** LANDER COUNTY **CONVENTION & TOURISM** FOR MORE INFORMATION

470 S. Broad St., Battle Mountain, NV 89820 775-635-1112 | www.landercountytourism.com www.ihpva.org





Looking to earn your spurs? Nevada is one of the last places people can still legitimately claim "buckaroo" as their job title. And from friendly competition between local ranch teams to the world championship event, we've got the rodeo chops to prove it.

Anniversaries? See pg. 115 to save the date!

# Reno Rodeo—Centennial Event

June 20-29

Nothing hollers tradition like a 100th anniversary. 150,000 fans a year have yet to be wrong about 10 full days of Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association sanctioned bull riding, steer wrestling, barrel racing, a cattle drive down the streets of Reno. and more.

# Virginia City Rodeo & Fiesta Del Charro

### August 24-25

Don your cowboy hat... or sombrero! Cheer on all your favorite events and get cultured on

rodeo's heritage with Nevada's only Fiesta Del Charro. Get up close and personal with bull riders, wild broncs, escaramuzas, dancing horses, trick ropers and all the incredible sights, sounds, and tastes of a classic Hispanic rodeo.



# Winnemucca Ranch Hand Rodeo

February 27-March 3

These guys and gals don't just compete in rodeothey live it. This five-day slew of events brings

over 30 top teams of real-life working ranch hands together to out-buckaroo each other and celebrate the life and culture of the Great Basin cowboy. This year also happens to be the event's 30th anniversary party, so expect things to get particularly buck wild.

# Silver State Stampede—Elko

July 12-14

Nevada's oldest rodeo began in 1913 when G.S. Garcia-co-founder of J.M. Capriola's-decided the buckaroos of northern Nevada needed a rodeo, and so began what has become, not just a rodeo but a full-on party, with a well-deserved motto: The Legend Lives On

you outfitted right.

D Bar M **Western Store** Reno

**Old Red Garter** Virginia City

Tip's Western Wear & Custom Saddlery

Winnemucca

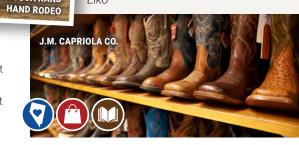
J.M. Capriola Co.

Andy's **Western Shop** Ely

A Bar L **Western Store** Tonopah

Kemo Sabe Las Vegas

Pinto Ranch Las Vegas



# Wrangler National Finals Rodeo— Las Vegas

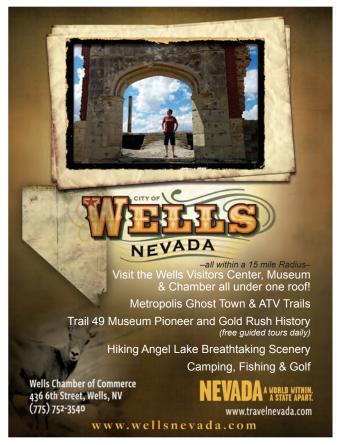
December 5-14

WINNEMUCCA RAND

Sin City's cowboys ain't all neon. Since 1985, this season-ending championship event for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association—the world's richest and most prestigious pro rodeo-has gone down right off the Strip.

Dates subject to change.









With warm and welcoming Elko as your hub, let the wild spokes of the Rubies Route connect you to real-deal western cultures, epic outdoor playgrounds, and all-to-yourself scenic treasures.

Adorned with alpine peaks, lakes and flowing streams, tree-lined canyons, and horizon-chasing, high-desert valleys,

Elko County is vast and varied, with the **Ruby Mountains** as its stunning centerpiece. Often likened to the Swiss Alps, their steep, craggy terrain spikes up past 11,000 feet (3,350 m), only to be united by the aspen-studded, creek-harboring, glacier-carved slice of paradise that is **Lamoille Canyon**.

Naturally, the range of recreational opportunities is as wide as the landscapes, enticing adventurers with

hiking, backpacking, cycling (both on and way, way off the pavement), big-game hunting (the elk are gargantuan), and fishing so good it's almost unfair. Come winter, the Rubies boast **300 inches of the driest, fluffiest snow in the USA**—seducing snowshoers, snowmobilers, and powder-hungry backcountry and heli-skiers alike.

# Elko to... Lamoille Canyon 30 miles [48 km] Angel Lake 60 miles [95 km] Ruby Lake NWR

60-90 miles [95-145 km]

Jarbidge (via highway)
195 miles [315 km]

Jarbidge (via seasonal route)
105 miles [170 km]





















For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see **TravelNevada.com/The-Rubies-Route** 





**#TheRubiesRoute #NVRoadTrip** 

# Just 1,65 for and bo vices

# SOUTH FORK STATE RECREATION AREA

Just 16 miles south of town is this 1,650-acre scenic stunner, ideal for camping, trophy-class trout and bass fishing (and ice fishing), boating, swimming, wildlife viewing, and—especially around sunset—an unbeatable view that'll help you see why they call those mountains the "Rubies."

# **JIGGS BAR**

About an hour south of Elko, *Jiggs'* entire population once fit into a Volkswagen van for an ad (below). Today, you'll find them and travelers enjoying cold libations, friendly conversation, and unusual taxidermy at 70-year-old Jiggs Bar—the coziest (and only) gathering place in the Mound Valley.



Photo courtesy of Northeastern Nevada Museum

## **JARBIDGE**

Site of one of the last American gold rushes (and stagecoach robberies), this decidedly Wild Western town (population: between 11 and 100) is your gateway to the Jarbidge

Wilderness-one of the most spectacular and truly remote corners of the state... and country.

TravelNevada Pro Tip: The dirt pass from Elko only gets plowed once a year (for their mighty July 4th bash) and snows in as early as October, so check all travel conditions before you go. Otherwise,

take the paved way around... through a small slice of Idaho. Jar-who? Meet the literal legend the town is named after on pg. 66-69



# Like What You See?

the gift shops at the Western Folklife Center and the Northeastern Nevada Museum, off the Cowboy Joe or some of the state's most inspired cocktails at the Duncan LittleCreek Gallery & Bar.

# **RUBY MOUNTAIN BREWING CO.**

Forget touristy tasting rooms and seen-one-seen-'em-all tours. Show up to the Saffords' working ranch-a rustic beer lover's oasis for over 20 years—and enjoy

For more great brewed-in-Nevada suds, flip to pg. 100-101

some small-but-mighty, awardwinning beers, possibly till the cows literally come home.

Wells



Lamoille





**REFUGE** 

In this panorama of watery grandeur on the backside of the **Rubies**, it's easy to spend a day fishing, trying to spot the 220 species of birds who take refuge here, or navigating the labyrinthine marshlands by canoe or kavak.

TravelNevada Pro Tip: Check to see if Harrison Pass is open (the Jiggs Bar folks usually know). If not, stick to the pavement on NV-229 out of Halleck.

## **ANGEL LAKE**

Perched at 8,500 feet among stunning glacial cirques, this aspen-cliffed gem-just 12 miles off the interstate-steals the hearts of hikers,

photographers, trout bums, and anyone lucky enough to spot bighorn sheep, mountain goats, pronghorn antelope, and more.

### **LAMOILLE CANYON**

This glacier-sculpted sanctuary in the heart of the Ruby

Mountains-AKA America's Alps-harbors some of the best hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, and off-grid alpine solace-seeking this side of the

Rockies. It's also your staging grounds for the Ruby Crest Trail.







Looking to drown some worms? Check out

Originally built in 1869 to service the brand-new First Transcontinental Railroad (celebrating its 150th anniversary this year), the town soon became a base for gold and silver mining, as well as raising livestock.

Buckaroos punched cattle on big ranches and surrounding lands, while sheepherders drove flocks up to higher elevations—a tough job that ultimately drew hundreds of Basques from Spain and France.

Elko... at its museums, in its restaurants' menus and cocktail glasses, and at its annual events, like the **National Cowboy Poetry** Gathering, the National Basque Festival, and the

**Elko Band Powwow.** 

Elko wears its heritage on its sleeve.

Those jobs and those cultures—as well as that of the Western Shoshone, whose ancestors have long called the region homeare all still around, their influences visible throughout Elko is by all means a modern town. But it's also still a place where pickup trucks rock

the telltale safety flags of mining employees. Where cowboys cruise around in flat-brimmed, buckaroo-style hats and colorful "wild rags." Where Shoshone don ornate regalia for dances and create dazzling traditional crafts and artwork. And where just about everyone comes together

to sip picons at

Machi's, munch steak sandwiches at Toki Ona, and chow down on familystyle lamb chops and T-bones at

The Star Hotel.

If you want to know what the future of tradition ought to look like, come to Elko. But be warned: people here are damn friendly. So forget what your parents told you and show up ready to talk to a stranger or ten.

# *ALTERNATIVE* **ACCOMMODATIONS**

# Ruby 360 Lodae

The "360" part is no joke. And, situated on the very toe of the range, neither is the "Ruby" part. In 2017, 40 years after launching Ruby Mountains Heli-**Experience**, their world-renowned helicopter skiing guide service, Joe and Francy Royer opened their dream-fulfilling chalet to host skiers, weddings, events, and group travelers.

# Red's Ranch

RED'S RANCH

This ain't your typical guest ranch, dude. Built on a patch of a 100-acre ranch at the foot of Lamoille Canyon, this 10-bedroom,

11,000 square-foot mountain lodge pairs plush hospitality with exquisite cuisine and dazzling scenery-a luxurious haven to retire to after a day recreating in the

Rubies, on a tour, or simply enjoying the property.

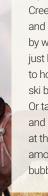
# **Ruby Yurts**

If being super-close isn't close enough, take a hike, mule team-or best yet, helicopter-to the Ruby

High Yurt, perched on

9,700-ft (3000 m) Conrad Creek Ridge and surrounded by wilderness; just be prepared to hoof it or ski back down. Or take it easy and park the car

at the Conrad Low Yurt, nestled amongst an aspen forest and a bubbling creek.





Get a bigger helping of Basque history, culture, and cuisine on pg. 36-37 See where to saddle up to Elko's cowboy character—and the rest of Northern Nevada's—on pg. 38





OPEN WED - SUN 9 - 4:30

# CALIFORNIA TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER



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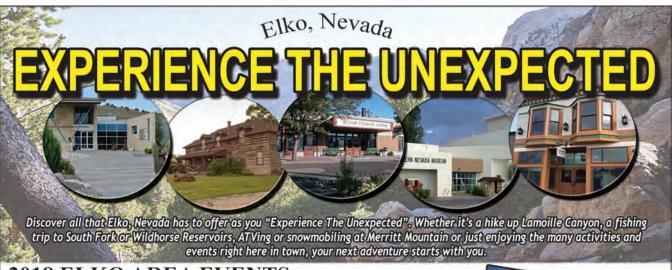








CALIFORNIATRAILCENTER.ORG



# 2018 ELKO AREA EVENTS:

National Cowboy Poetry Gathering- January 28 thru February 2

Elko Mining Expo-June 3 thru June 7

National Basque Festival-July 5 thru July 7

Silver State Stampede-July 12 thru July 14

Ruby Mountain Balloon Festival-July 26 thru July 28

Ruby Mountain Relay-August 16 thru August 17

Elko County Fair & Horse Races-August 24 thru September 2

Elko Classic Car Show-September 6 thru September 8



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ELKO CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY Elko, Nevada • (800) 248-3556

EXPLOREELKO.COM



From sandstone canyons to alpine lakes and plenty of history, funky towns, and natural wonders along the way, Nevada's adventurous eastern edge beckons. Explore it all and more on Nevada's Great Basin Highway, which closely follows the path of US-93.

and several small, historic communities before turning up at remote Great Basin National Park, largest and most populous city—winding through wide-open country, eight Nevada state parks Marked by stunning contrasts around every bend, this trek begins in Las Vegas—the state's one of the nation's most striking—yet lesser visited—national parks. Those who complete the journey are rewarded with millenia-old bristlecone pine trees, Lehman Caves, and sweeping vistas of (or from the top

your gear, as this road trip is ideal for hiking, mountain biking, swimming, fishing, endless photography, and so of!) 13,064-foot Wheeler Peak. You'll want to bring

# 350 miles [565 km]

Las Vegas to Great Basin National Park

5.5 hours

IG: ©INAFITADVENTURES

# WARD CHARCOAL OVENS STATE HISTORIC PARK

photogenic 30-foot-tall, 27-foot-wide, thousands of bushels of charcoal for the region's mines—and foul-weather beehive-shaped kilns that provided hideouts for stagecoach bandits. This park is home to several

# **GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK**

Basin National Park. Lehman Caves and ancient one of Nevada's tallest—as you approach Great Take in 13,064-foot (3,982 m) Wheeler Peak-

Baker

E













Pioche in the 1870s was a young—and lawless someone actually died of natural causes

burger bar/art gallery in a 150-year-old workshop. oh-so-Nevadan coffee shop/ classic western saloons, and an the Million Dollar Courthouse, 1,000-boasts a historic hotel, actually a community of about Nevada's liveliest ghost town"-



so red that an astonishing 72 people were mining town. It is said that the streets ran laid to rest—with their boots on—before

ELY The 27-mile detour to Ely allures vith railroad history, murals, mountain amously western-chic Hotel Nevada iking, and the funky flair of the









On Nevada's remote central-eastern border, it benefits from a strikingly low number of annual visitors—one of the lowest in the country—which means it is a sanctuary

hoof it up to one of Nevada's tallest peaks,

where solitude can still be found and where nature runs wild. Visitors to the park in spring or fall can conceivably hike for hours on backcountry trails without seeing another soul.

See JUST how just dark we're

really talking with this whole

"darkest skies in the nation" deal.

Aspen groves shade the mountain streams and shimmer with morning dew. **Bristlecone pine trees,** thousands of years old, still grow, gnarled with age. **Lehman Caves** awes visitors with an array of colors, patterns, and rare formations forged over many millennia. A scenic paved road takes motorists to the 10,000-foot mark (3,050 m), where they're left to **Love to hike? Check out pg. 76** 

13,064-foot (3,982 m) Wheeler Peak, which peers over Nevada's last glacier.

While the park teems with wildlife, on land and in air, it also tells the story of the geological formation of the western U.S., its waters draining inland into this, the Great Basin. With sights like these, as well as incomparable fishing, hiking, climbing, and more, Great Basin National Park is one Nevada—and American—treasure that should not be missed.

# ALONG THE WAY...

STATE HISTORIC SITE You may already know about oh-so-iconic Valley of Fire. But go beyond the crowds and let the magic of this road trip emerge among nearly a dozen parks and recreation areas, each defined by its own unique, outstanding features...and likely offering even greater chances to grab onto those majestic, all-to-yourself moments than you

> might find among some of their more popular, metroaccessible counterparts.



Nevada's quietest and most remote park rewards the journey with deep canyons, trout-packed streams, waterfalls, and lovely

mixed-conifer forests.

# Spring Valley

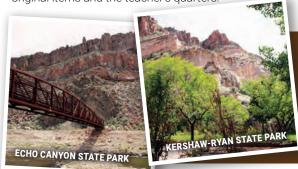
BEAVER DAM

STATE PARK

A 58-acre trout-stocked reservoir set against lush pastures, shady camping, stunning cliffs, and stone buildings.

# Elgin Schoolhouse

A one-room schoolhouse offering a glimpse of frontier Nevada's past with original items and the teacher's quarters.





CHOOLHOUSE

A 65-acre reservoir flocked to by boaters, anglers, and large birds of prey.

SPRING VALLEY STATE PARK

# Kershaw-Ryan

Spring-fed paradise home to lush gardens and easy, literally "gorge-ous" hikes.



Flip to pg. 72-75 to get the rundown on Nevada's sensational state parks and state recreation areas.

# BED & BREAKFASTS

NEVADA

Whether you are looking for Romance, Nature, History, or Adventure, Nevada's B&Bs offer it all.

Staying at a Nevada Bed and Breakfast Guild inn is your key to unlocking the fascinating adventure that is Nevada! Each Nevada B&B invites you to share the wonder of a unique experience in the Silver State! Nevada's B&Bs encompass the diversity of deserts, mountains, lakes and historic central cities. Working ranches and historic ghost towns are homes to exciting B&Bs waiting to share their history and Western lifestyle with visitors. Consider a Nevada B&B for your Nevada wedding, honeymoon, anniversary, personal retreat, adventure holiday, or romantic getaway. No matter where you travel in Nevada, a Nevada B&B is close by, ready to enhance your adventure in the Silver State!







Follow the pilgrimage route that Burners take each August on their journey "home"

to Burning Man... starting in Reno—home to a Burner-friendly,

.. more about Burning Man, Nevada's Experimental Pop-up Metropolis. TEN TO LEARN...

art-fueled renaissance—around the quiet, sunset-splashing shores

and beyond. For a week at the end of each summer, Black Rock City springs to life and, just as quickly, of Pyramid Lake, and off into the magnificent Black Rock Desert Wilderness, both on the fabled playa disappears. However, around northwestern Nevada, its spirit never really does. Over the years, many have taken up their rest-of-the-year residences here, infusing plenty of the event's verve into public art, museums, shops, galleries, makers' spaces, events, and more, keeping this rich culture—and even its guiding principles—alive year-round... and in turn enriching Nevada's.

Whether or not you plan on making the journey out to BRC, trace the footsteps of those who do and you'll discover how Nevada's do-it-yourself spirit, splendorous wide-open natural spaces, spunky "why not" attitude, and unmatched freedom energizes people to come out here and create something magical.

> 120-220 Miles [200-360 km]

Reno to the Black Rock Desert

2 to 5.5 hours



# **PYRAMID LAKE**

outdoor recreation and you'll see why this You'll need more than your camera to jewel. Tahoe-sized vistas, surprising colors, remarkable silence...Throw in some top-notch spot earns at least a stop on the way. take in this crowd-free, underrated scenic

Trout? You're gonna wanna. Flip to pg. 80-81 Anglers! Ever heard of a Lahontan Cutthroat for the rundown on Nevada's fishing scene.



station, Aphrodite, a tribute to Elvis, and the Desert Broadcast System to reflection, along with several larger art pieces, including a weather Words of wisdom and hand-carved whimsy line this mile-long road -all the legacy of Gerlach local DeWayne "Doobie" Williams.

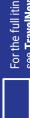
# **PLANET X POTTERY**

splendiferous surroundings. home galleries, many inspired by their where since 1974 a husband-and-wife team has offered exquisite ceramics and paintings in sprawling ranch and art studio from another dimension, Granite Mountains lies a working pottery Just past Gerlach at the toes of the

the twice-annual, three-day Open House Show & Sale, an all-around pottery party. Memorial Day or Thanksgiving weekend for TravelNevada Pro Tip: Swing by on

DESERT ROCK





For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see TravelNevada.com/Burner-Byway



#BurnerByway #NVRoadTrip

# **BOUTIQUES**" **RENO'S "BURNER** MIDTOWN

accessories, Melting Pot and art all over. For vintage duds, wild costumery, or "Playa-ready" garb and eats, libations, funky shops, replete with amazing local Burner culture has helped spark this colorful neighborhood's revival

**PYRAMID** 

World Emporium, PolyEsther's

**Dick Diamond's Golden Jackal** lead the charge. Sound like your kind of 'hood? Next time you're down south, be sure to explore 18B: Downtown Las Vegas' art-tastic, retro-centric, everevolving cultural district on pg. 32

# Costume Boutique, Junkee Clothing Exchange, and

# **NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART**

**LAKE TAHOE** 

and longtime Burning Man partner-the NMA focuses on humans' interaction with our environment, exhibiting Nevada's sole accredited art museum-



Excited for exhibits? Peruse more Nevada museums on pg. 103-107 works by Nevadan, national, and international artists mastering everything from landscape photography to space-bound "satell-

art." It's also home to concerts, lectures, and a killer endless mimosa brunch at Chez-Louie.

# PAIUTE TRIBE MUSEUM **VISITOR CENTER PYRAMID LAKE**

Gerlach

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and the well as purchase permits for any nistory of this sacred region, as camping, boating, or fishing. Discover the culture of the



Wander amongst curious sculptures and art installations, all of which have retired from The Burn to this recently reclaimed piece of Downtown.

> ..more about Reno TURN TO LEARN.

ravelNevada Pro Tip: Visit at night to see them all lit up!



For more out-there art in unrestrained settings, hop on the Free-Range Art Highway pg. 30-31

# THE GENERATOR

to visit or help with a creative project—some of which community space is your place. No matter how long you're in town, all people and skill sets are welcome Want to learn to paint? Weld? Build a giant stainedglass mosaic celestial whale? This art/maker/ are Playa-bound!

Visit therenogenerator.com for info on events, projects, workshops, and other ways you can get into it.



Nevadans are pretty crafty. See where else on pg. 33

The Biggest Little City in the World has come a long way from its Wild Western origins. And seemingly just as far—with its public art obsession, bohemian shops, dynamic music scene, all-the-time events lineup, and local-centric foodie

landscape—from its days as "just" a premier casino town.

Don't get us wrong. Downtown Reno's top-notch casino-resorts still serve up the world-class entertainment, grand buffets, spa pamperings, and 24-hour gaming that put this town on the map (long before Vegas, we might add). It's just that, today, they spring up from a sea of coffeehouses, savory cafés, tap rooms, and local shops spread across several walkable neighborhoods, each with its own flavor.

The Reno Riverwalk, along the picturesque Truckee River, is a charming confluence for diners, shoppers, joggers, swimmers, and party-goers of music-packed, street-closing events, like Artown, Sculpture Fest, and the Great Eldorado BBQ, Blues & Brews Fest.

Surrounding blocks reveal parks, local theatres, the chic boutiques housed in **The Basement** of the newly reopened **Old Post Office Building,** the cafés and trendy taverns of **California Street,** a lively bar scene around **Greater Nevada Field,** 

DOWNTOWN RIVERWALK

the hands-on art and maker spaces down **Dickerson Road**, and cultural institutions like the **National Automobile Museum** and **Nevada Museum of Art**.

Chec

Check out more Nevada museums on pg. 103-107

And then there's **Midtown**. Here, in Reno's hippest district, the pulse of this town's revivalist spirit beats good and loud. Full of quirky stores, score-filled vintage shops, swanky bistros, and cocktail havens, but also plenty of rockin' music venues, beer halls, tattoo parlors, and ever-changing murals adorning nearly every brick... this formerly—shall we say—grittier, mid-century district feels at once fresh and alive, yet also carefully intent on preserving just enough spunky edge to hold onto its street cred.

But that's just it. Instead of bulldozing the past to "get with the times," like countless other towns, Reno leverages its old-school charm to make the "right now" feel that much more authentic. The result? On any given day or night, the biggest dilemma Reno-ites may face is choosing which thing NOT to do.

# BURNING MAN — NEVADA'S EXPERIMENTAL POP-UP METROPOLIS

Some people think Burning Man is just some wild, dusty hippie party in the desert. And if that's your thing, have fun. But the truth is, there's a helluva lot more to it...

For one week, the vast, flat, otherwiseempty Black Rock Desert playa becomes the state's third-largest urban area: Black Rock City, whose city blocks are populated with everything from small tents to theme-camp compounds done up as cafés, discotheques, day spas, viking mess halls, you name it—most in structures you'd never believe weren't there a few days ago—and won't be in just a few more.

Open Playa serves as a stage for performers, a dance hall for musicians, and a blank canvas for artists and makers to come build some of the most innovative, technologically-advanced, largest-scale, and objectively boundary-redefining artworks on Earth... all in a place where full participation is highly encouraged.

# But let's be clear: Burning Man is hardly a "tourist attraction."

Sure, it sells tickets. But that doesn't mean you can just show up and rock out—not even close. Preparation takes weeks (often longer) and, done poorly, can result in one seriously bad trip.

It can be a life-changing experience, a family reunion, a celebration of freedom and self-expression, a funeral pyre for norms and social baggage... all of the above and more, often at the same time. The beauty of the whole thing is, as long as you've got what it takes to get there, be there, and let the thing truly happen... whatever you want it to be, it will be.

Into it? Head to **burningman.org** to find out more.







The alleged home of recovered alien spacecraft, extraterrestrial technology, and maybe even a few little green men on the federal payroll, one thing is for sure: when you pilot your vessel along the wide-open roads through this **scenic**, otherworldly wilderness with that warm wind in your hair (or antennae), you'll appreciate why a visitor would travel across the galaxy to enjoy this kind of freedom.

Whether you depart civilization in Tonopah or make the "Kessel Run" up from Las Vegas (itself a different planet in some folks' view), prepare to train your eyes on alien-themed everything from curios to murals to vodka—and open your ears to glorious

conversation with the friendly humans who don't need a phone to call these lovably odd locales home.



150 miles [240 km] Alamo to Tonopah

2.25 hours

# TONOPAH HISTORIC MINING PARK

Located on the site of the original mining claims that launched the rush to the "Queen of the Silver Camps," this 100-acre park features free exhibits and self-guided tours around original equipment, buildings, and shafts dug deep into Planet

> Earth. (Guided tours are well worth your \$5.)







See more Nevada museums on pg. 103-107

## TONOPAH BREWING CO.

Out-of-this-world brisket and other tasty barbecue staples complement craft beers-named

after the more terrestrial-bound riches surrounding the historic mining community-at this combination smokehouse and on-site brewery, a welcome site to travelers from around the universe.





Care for another? See where else to take a load off on pg. 100-101



Area 51 does exist (officially now). It's also part of an active military base,

patrolled and guarded by some of the heaviest security on Earth or anywhere else. That means what it's NOT is a tourist attraction. If you find yourself close by, obey all posted signs and don't even think about trespassing. You will be caught and you will be prosecuted. And



For the full itinerary and tips on where to stay, see TravelNevada.com/ET-Highway











### **RACHEL**

Population 54 according to 2010 US Census data (but maybe closer to 100, depending who you ask), Rachel's proximity to Area 51 has earned it legendary status in the hearts of "UFOlogists," as well as on the screens of many films, TV shows, and video games.

### **E.T. FRESH JERKY**

IG: @ADVENTUREISNEVERFARAWAY

After savoring samples of "Teriyaki Time Travel,"

"Hell Hole Hot," and other jerky specialties, peruse kitschy wares, pose with life-size local out-of-towners in funky murals, and be sure to "drop your toxic waste in the cleanest restrooms in Area 51."

Tonopah

Rachel

TO DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

# LITTLE A'LE'INN

IG: @JESSELORDS

Naturally, the closest bar, grill, and motel to Area 51 serves up Alien

Burgers, all manner of UFO-themed merchandise,

a tow truck rescuing a broke-down UFO and other fun photo-ops, and plenty of stories.



If you're hungry, your stomach's in the right state. Get more tips on where to grab a bite on pg. 98-99 TO LAS VEGAS

Alamo

#### **ET HIGHWAY SIGN**

Stop the car—this sign pic is mandatory. Fun fact: Route 375 was officially dedicated the "Extraterrestrial Highway" in conjunction with the release of the Will Smith classic "Independence Day" in 1996.



When you spot the giant silver space dude guarding the Quonset hut—likely from miles away—you've got the right place. Stop in for an impressive array of UFO-related literature, Area 51 t-shirts, souvenirs, "alien agave" tequila tastings, and other perhaps-not-so-earthly delights.







# HASH IT OUT!

# #TRAVELNEVADA

Our OG # - works every time!

# #NVROADTRIP

Our general anything-goes # for road tripping the Silver State.

# **OH, DID WE MENTION?**

Always feel free to grab our attention-we're @TravelNevada on all the things. If we love your pic, we just might ask to re-share it (or print it here!) and make you all kinds of Insta-famous.

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Beware: your Nevada adventure may take you off the grid. However, no cell

service, no Wi-Fi? No problem. Before you head out, download our free app for itineraries, easy-to-

use offline maps and navigation, location-based travel alerts, and more.

SEARCH "TRAVELNEVADA" IN THE APP STORE OR ON GOOGLE PLAY.









By Lorraine Hunt-Bono | Adventurer

L as Vegas, known world-wide as the most exciting modern entertainment destination on the planet, also has a fascinating and varied history.

While much of Las Vegas has been renovated into contemporary resorts and progressive architecture, history-hungry travelers can still experience a taste of a time when the Rat Pack and big bands ruled the stages, neon was new, and Las Vegas was the center of glamour and intrigue.

HISTORY-HUNGRY TRAVELERS CAN
STILL EXPERIENCE A TASTE OF A TIME
WHEN THE RAT PACK AND BIG BANDS
RULED THE STAGES.

# DAY ONE

(Hint... Arrive on Thursday Night)

Arrive on a Thursday night and make your first stop **The Bootlegger Bistro**—my family's restaurant. Adorned with authentic photos of legendary Las Vegas entertainers, it features live cabaret-style music every night paired with family-style Italian fare, as it has since 1972. The secret sauce for its longevity? For one, the kitchen is still run by our 100-year-old matriarch, Maria Perry. All reasons the restaurant was highlighted in the "Jazz & Nostalgia" episode of *Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown–Las Vegas*.

For a truly classic Las Vegas lodging experience, check in to one of the downtown hotels such as the **El Cortez** (the longest continuously running hotel and casino in Las Vegas), the **Golden Gate** (Las Vegas' very first hotel), or any of the hotels on Fremont Street.

# DAY TWO

Start the day at the **Neon Museum**. Here you'll find an incredible collection of fabulous neon signs. The visitor's center is housed in the historic La Concha Motel



lobby that jettisons visitors back in time with its mid-century, Atomic-Age vibe. Plan to

spend at least an hour taking the tour and exploring the Boneyard.

Make your next stop the **Mob Museum**. Located in the heart of downtown, it showcases both sides of the notorious battle between organized crime and law enforcement, here in Las Vegas and around the US. See and hear the stories of infamous mob bosses including Al Capone, Lucky Luciano, Whitey Bulger, and the man whose name is synonymous with Las Vegas, Bugsy Siegel.



Browse over to pg. 103-107 for more great Nevada museums

Next, make a stop at the **Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas**, which offers a
comprehensive and interactive look at the
history of Las Vegas, from American Indian
settlements to the rise of the casino industry.

Then, head down Flamingo Road to the **National Atomic** 

Learn about this bombshell of a chapter in Nevada's history on pg. 60-61

**Testing Museum**. Back in the '50s, Las Vegans used to take a long lunchfirst to eat a sandwich, then to watch a bomb explode. Surreal, yes...fascinating, absolutely. With more than 12,000 interactive displays, stories and videos, the museum educates visitors about the truly unique nuclear Atomic Age history found in Las Vegas.

In the evening, venture back downtown to enjoy dinner at one of the classic Las Vegas steakhouses on Fremont Street. Hugo's Cellar at the Four Queens Hotel

take diners back to the days of martinis, cigars, and great steaks. You just don't find places like this anymore. (The '60s glitz of the **Golden Steer**—Vegas' oldest steakhouse—on Sahara Avenue gets our mouths watering, too!)

Enjoy a nighttime stroll along Fremont Street, with the canopy of lights, unbeatable people-watching, and several fun vintage shops, bars, and casinos. You might also want to take in a performance at **The Smith Center for the Performing Arts**. This spectacular Art Deco venue hosts world-renowned musical performances, Broadway shows, and is home of the **Nevada Ballet Theater** and the **Las Vegas Philharmonic**.

Out late? If you've worked up an appetite (or are simply cushioning your morning), some of the classic casino dining halls on the west end of Fremont Street still reel in hungry revelers with dirt-cheap "Graveyard Specials" on steak dinners and more

# DAY THREE

Start the day with one of Las Vegas' iconic buffet breakfasts. Take the rest of the morning to explore the newly renovated downtown Las Vegas and immerse yourself in the cultural renaissance that's happening throughout the vibrant, growing area, starting with the **Container Park**.

By lunchtime make sure you've moseyed over to the nearby **Las Vegas Arts District** "18B" centered along Charleston and Main



More about the Las Vegas Arts District "18B" on pg. 32

Streets to meet working artists and peruse galleries, many of which are open Sunday afternoon. Several area restaurants are known for their fresh, delicious cuisine.

Before the sun sets, drive through the midcentury modern (MCM) architecture of the homes in **Paradise Palms**. This neighborhood, off of East Desert Inn, epitomizes the iconic style of Las Vegas in the 1960s.







# **WALKER RIVER RESORT - COTTAGE**

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# **WALKER RIVER RESORT - RV**

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#### KEY **ACCOMMODATIONS**

\$ Wi-Fi Available (2) No Smoking

Continental Breakfast

Restaurant Onsite Pets Allowed

Gaming Available

Fitness Facilities Pets Allowed

3 Swimming/Pool Facilities

ATV Riding Sporting Clays

### **RV PARKS**

Full Hookups Pull Thru

KEY

Restrooms Ġ Handicap Access

Propane

Drinking Water m Dump Station

Laundry Facilities

# Northern Nevada Southern Nevada LISTINGS







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LAUGHLIN

HOTEL & CASINO

RIVER

LODGE

**HOOVER DAM** 

LODGE



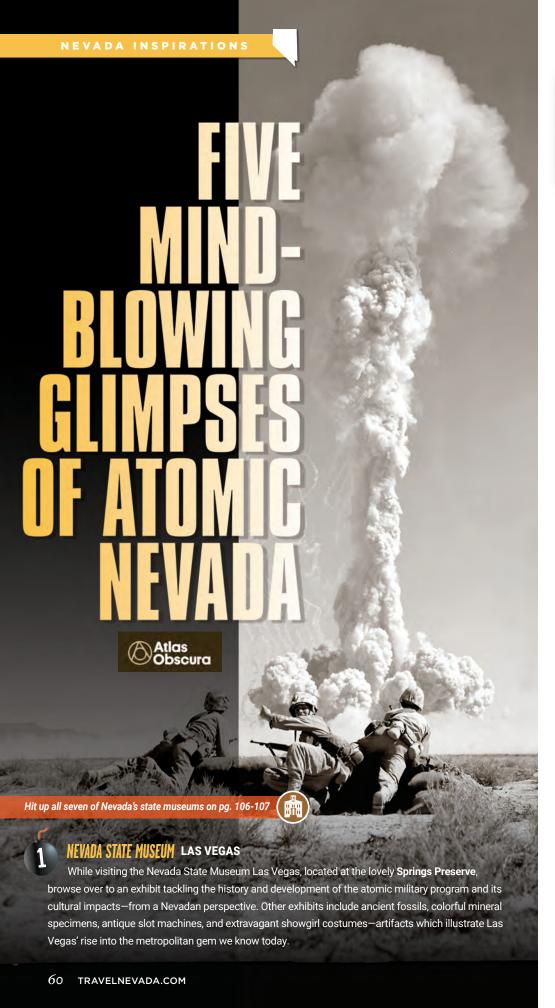
# LAUGHLIN RIVER LODGE **HOTEL & CASINO**

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When the threat of nuclear weapons loomed during the 1950s, a whopping 928 atomic tests were performed in Nevada.

This bout of nuclear experimentation sparked a strange allure, and a resulting niche of tourism that truly only could have happened in Nevada.

Numerous radiant contestants competed to win the title of "Miss Atomic Bomb" at pageants held on the Strip, while test blast signals sounded, alerting night owl gamblers it was time to come to "dawn parties"

parties,"
where they
could grab a few
cocktails and
a seat to view
the impending
mushroom cloud.
Thankfully, the
Cold War never
turned hot. And
half a century later,
Nevada is left
with some oddly
fascinating legacies
of the Atomic Age.

MISS ATOMIC BOMB Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau It's now safe to visit the same Nevada National Security Site tour that features Survival Town.



# SURVIVAL TOWN NEVADA NATIONAL **SECURITY SITE (NNSS)**

In 1955, Operation Teapot was conducted to test the bombs' impact on an actual "neighborhood." Odd as it may seem, a cute little village was constructed, complete with manneguin versions of 1950s picture-perfect families, frozen in their daily routines in dapper outfits. Monthly tours of Survival Town and the surrounding test

site depart from the National Atomic Testing

Museum. They involve high security and higher demand, but are well worth forfeiting your phone for a few hours-and booking well in advance.

Check out more remarkable museums on pg. 103-105



SEDAN CRATER

The point of Operation Plowshare was to see if atomic bombs could be used for "good," instead of as a weapon, such as directing an explosion's energy to move large amounts of earth. Turns out, they can. Our evidence? The Sedan Crater, the largest man-made crater in America, 320 feet deep (98 m) and 1,200 feet (365 m) in diameter. Detonated 600 feet below the ground, it sent a massive shockwave of dirt-almost 12 million tons of it—cascading into a dome nearly 300 feet off the ground. It's now safe to visit on the same NNSS tour that features Survival Town.



Today, Las Vegas draws a new kind of atomic tourist with the National Atomic Testing Museum, a partner of the Smithsonian, which investigates the science, history, and pop culture of one of Nevada's—and America's—more controversial periods. Among its detailed, interactive displays, don't miss: an authentic (and huge) nuclear reactor, a backpack nuke and other "personal" atomic weapons, and dozens of artifacts from actual nuclear tests.



Originally just a liquor store, Sin City's oldest freestanding bar cemented its place in atomic history when it picked up a tavern license... so customers—be they Rat Pack-era celebrities, casino workers, or any walk of life in between—could climb onto the rooftop and toast the blasts, visible 65 miles to the north. The joint has held down its corner of

Fremont East District for over six decades, with its bar area restored to its original configuration, and its glorious neon kept intact. Although the view of mushroom clouds is now relegated to the incredible historical photos lining the walls, you can still order up some tasty "atomic cocktails" off a themed menu.





# LET'S FACE IT: NEVADA'S ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE... DIFFERENT.

As a state founded by gold miners and cowboys, built up by casino magnates, and flocked to today by renegade artists and other modern freedom-seekers, "ordinary" was just never really in the cards.

And don't get us wrong. We love our pristine world-class cuisine, and oh-somany picture-perfect Visitor's Guideworthy niceties.

But at the same time, whether it's a haunted clown-themed motel or an amateur taxidermy-filled fireworks museum, there's another way of looking at things that is clear to us, to scores of enlightened Nevadans, and to born adventurers hungry for something a little more savory in their future campfire tales: Our quirks... are our perks.

So if you're the kind of person who understands that no trip is complete without someone saying "Well, THAT was a little odd!" a couple times a day, then you're in luck. Because out here, no matter if you're deep down an ET Highway rabbit hole or just beginning to scratch the surface on Fremont Street, you're never too far from something satisfyingly unusual.

So! Ready to embrace your inner oddball?

Here are some of our favorite places to get down in some #WEIRDNEVADA

# OUR QUIRKS ARE OUR PERKS.



Feel like sharing? Post pics with

# #WEIRDNEVADA

to spice up your friends' feeds!

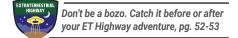


# THE CLOWN MOTEL

**TONOPAH** 

CLOWN MOTEL Tonopah

Exactly what it sounds like, this clown-themed motel boasts what's got to be the largest private collection of



clown figurines and memorabilia under the sun

and a few resident ghosts rumored to have moved in from the mining cemetery next door.

# PUTTING THE "GHOST" IN "GHOST TOWN" BEATTY

Perched within view of the ruins of historic **Rhyolite**, these photogenic plaster ghosts are actually an interpretation of Da Vinci's "The Last Supper"—one of several larger-than-life installations at the 35-year-old **Goldwell Open Air Museum.** 

Ever been ghosted? You'll fit right in among these towns, pg. 88-89

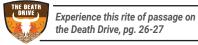


# COFFIN IT UP

**PAHRUMP** 

Initially driven into coffin-making to fight the predatory funeral industry, a husband-and-wife team now offer tours of their macabre, made-to-order coffin-shaped everything business, including their workshop, hearse collection,

and "Church of the Coffin" wedding chapel.



# THE REPUBLIC OF MOLOSSIA

DAYTON

Pack your passports if you plan on visiting this official, sovereign "micronation"—complete with its own post office, national bank, and even space force. Just be sure you ditch any contraband onions, incandescent bulbs, or walruses at the border.

# ROLLER COASTER FIREWORKS OUTLET

**BATTLE MOUNTAIN** 

If it explodes, pyrotechnic experts and firework makers Earl and Spider Cassorla can help you find it at their brand's outlet store, also home to a mini-museum and a collection of bizarre taxidermy, featuring a grinning horse, a cat, and an alleged Mexican chupacabra.

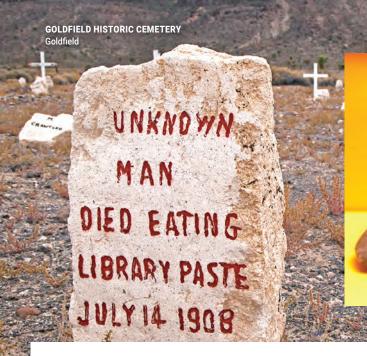
# **NATURAL SELECTION**

RENO

"Purveyors Of All Things Odd and Beautiful," if it's succulents, rare houseplants, archivally preserved skulls, or antique taxidermy you're after, this Midtown Reno boutique's got you covered.

# WORLD'S LARGEST STUFFED POLAR BEAR

Elko is not only the "Home of Cowboy Poetry," but also of "White King," a one-ton, 10-foot-4-inch taxidermied polar bear that was hunted in Alaska, stuffed in Denver, and propped up in Elko's Commercial Casino back in 1957. Today, it still graces both the casino floor and the pages of Hunter S. Thompson's 1992 Rolling Stone article, "Fear and Loathing in Elko."



# GOLDFIELD HISTORIC CEMETERY **GOLDFIELD**

This is one of many gut-busting epitaphs revealing the untimely demises of this cemetery's permanent residents. located outside the Wild Western living ghost town of Goldfield



# CRAZY TEX'S HOOF SHOES **ELKO**

In the Wild West, where there's cattle, there's bound to be some cattle rustlin'. But few cow thieves were clever enough to make off with dozens of head for several months, leaving not even a footprint. That is, a human one. His secret? Plank shoes fitted with cow hooves, now on display at the Northeastern Nevada Museum.

# TONOPAH T

# COME FOR THE HISTORY STAY FOR THE ADVENTURE!

RICH BOOMTOWN HISTORY • STAR GAZING • OFF ROADING • NEARBY GHOST TOWNS



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# LEGENDARY NEVADANS

Get up close and personal with some of the larger-than-life personalities who helped define Nevada's own.

# MARK TWAIN

In the 1861, a young Missourian named Samuel Langhorne Clemens tagged along with his older brother to Nevada Territory. It was here that Clemens would discover his distaste of office work, become "allergic" to shovels

and gold mining, adopt the pen name "Mark Twain," and train his ears on the colorful language, fanciful yarns, and bombastic characters that would later inform a life of writing—one that would shape American literature and humor forever.

"...At last the Lake burst upon us—a noble sheet of blue water lifted six-thousand-three-hundred feet above the level of the sea, and walled in by a rim of snow-clad mountain peaks that towered aloft full three thousand feet higher still! ... As it lay there with the shadows of the mountains brilliantly photographed upon its still surface, I thought it surely must be the fairest picture the whole earth affords."

—Mark Twain, Roughing It (1872)

# STOMPING GROUNDS

## Virginia City

In this birthplace of Twain's famous nom de plume, be sure to pay your respects at the *Territorial Enterprise* building where he spent many a day... as well as the **Delta Saloon**, where he reportedly spent at least as many nights.

#### Lake Tahoe

Judging by where he spent his R&R, we're pretty sure '@MarkTwain' would be 'Grammin Tahoe's **#NevadaSide** today.

#### **Carson City**

Walk along the **Blue Line Trail** to see Orion Clemens' house, where Twain crashed for awhile, and other spectacular homes of the state's early movers and shakers.



Visit these old haunts of his along the Lake Tahoe Loop, pg. 20-21

#### Unionville

Twain's miner's cabin still stands in the canyon where he learned the hard way, as he observes in *Roughing It*, that "all that glitters is not gold." Nearby, you'll find the lovely **Old Pioneer Garden B&B Guest Ranch**, if you fancy a pilgrimage to the site.



Take this detour off of the Cowboy Corridor, pg. 34-35

# WYATT AND VIRGIL EARP

Already famous from his days as an Old West lawman, gambler, and gunfighter in Tombstone, Arizona, Wyatt Earp's reputation—along with his brother, Virgil's—followed him to central Nevada, complicating chances at a quieter life. Although they were a little too late to hit paydirt with mining, during the few years they spent here (1901-1905), the Earp brothers managed to scrape out an honest living, as well as a few tales along the way.

## STOMPING GROUNDS

#### Tonopah

Not all historians sanction it, but local legend places Wyatt behind the bar of the Mizpah Hotel's saloon for a time. Today, you can still bask in its 1900s decadence and enjoy a great cocktail, or learn about all the things that really did happen in the "Queen of the Silver Camps" among the fascinating indoor and outdoor exhibits of the Central Nevada Museum





Follow their footsteps on the Free-Range Art Highway, pg. 30-31

#### Goldfield

One saloon where an Earp was definitely on the payroll was the National Club, where Virgil was named a "Special Officer"—a glorified bouncer. Even at age 62 and with only one functional arm, the 6-foot-2-inch man made a good peacekeeper, probably with a little help from, as the local paper put it, his lineage as "one of the famous family of gunologists." The National may be history, but you can still raise a glass to the Earps among the movie-quality ambiance of the **Hoist House Tavern** and the **Santa Fe Saloon**—two original elixir emporiums the brothers surely visited.

# HOWARD HUGHES

Billionaire businessman, generous philanthropist, aviation hero, film producer, and extraordinary eccentric all in one, Howard Hughes'



time in Nevada was spent in far more places than the penthouse of the Las Vegas Desert Inn, where he lived as a recluse for four years.

Want more of the story? Visit all seven Nevada State Museums, as well as dozens of other history-packed local museums and heritage centers throughout the state. See what's in store on pg. 103-107.



SPRING MOUNTAIN

ANCH STATE PARK

# STOMPING GROUNDS

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Hughes bought this lush oasis in
1967, hoping to entice his wife, Jean
Peters, to move out to Vegas. When
the plan failed—and before ever even
staying there himself—Hughes sold it.
Rather than let it become a planned
community, Nevada State Parks
bought it in 1974.



Of all the places Hughes laid claim to, the only place he actually mined was here—now a "living ghost town" home to epic backcountry (and, of course, an epic backcountry bar).

### **Boulder City**

In the 1940s, if you were going to wreck your plane, you might as well have done it on Lake Mead, so you could recuperate at the **Boulder Dam**Hotel, which remains as opulent and period-chic as it was back then.





HOTEL

BOULDER DAM

Vist modern-day "B.C." on the Neon to Nature Road Trip, pg. 16-17





# EILLEY BOWERS

"Miner – Lodger – Speculator – Fortune Teller." That's a helluva resume for anyone from any era, but especially for a woman in the 1860s. This sharp, industrious businesswoman and all-

around frontier badass bucked norms braving ups and downs throughout a life that left us a legacy.

# STOMPING GROUNDS

**Mormon Station State Historic Park** 

Not only was this the first Nevada town Bowers moved to, it was also the literal



Visit these destinations along the Lake Tahoe Loop, pg. 20-25

first Nevada town, period. Today, you can tour the fort where the Mormon Battalion, including Bowers' first husband, built a

trading post, as well as charming present-day **Genoa**, home to some lovely cafés and another Nevada superlative: the oldest "thirst parlor" in the state.

#### **Gold Hill**

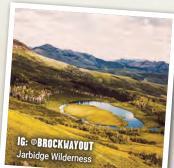
As founder and proprietress of a boarding house for miners, Bowers amassed a fortune buying and selling mining claims, with a lucrative side-hustle telling fortunes with her Scottish "peep stone." Get a taste of the era at the **Gold Hill Hotel & Saloon**, opened around 1861.

### **Bowers Mansion Regional Park**

With money to spend, Bowers built her dream home in 1863, a two-story, 16-room mansion furnished with bold new technology, art, and decorations imported from all over Europe. The property is no less impressive today, where seasonal **guided tours** offer one of the best glimpses of the incomparable wealth of Nevada's Comstock period.

According to Shoshone legend, a giant cannibal named *Tsawhawbitts* (*pronounced tuh-SAW-haw-bits*) roamed a certain canyon in the far reaches of northern Nevada, hunting for unsuspecting men to toss into a large basket and carry back to camp for "dinner." In 1909, prospectors in the last major gold rush in American history named

the canyon after its mythical resident, mispronouncing the Shoshone word as "Jarbidge" (JAR-bidj).



# STOMPING GROUNDS

Today, Jarbidge

remains Nevada's most isolated town as well as a one-of-a-kind wilderness outpost for **fishing**, **big-game hunting**, **off-road exploration**, **unbeatable photography**, **camping**, **and more**. Depending on the season, up to 100 residents live along the dirt-road



Discover more about this stunning corner of the Silver State on The Rubies Route pg. 40-42

main drag, across which downtown's two bars, the **Red Dog Saloon** and the **Outdoor Inn** join forces to keep patrons warm, satiated, and entertained.



**TULE DUCK DECOYS** Smithsonian Museum, Washington DC

# LIVING LEGEND MIKE WILLIAMS

Mike Williams is a living legend. He's also a Great Basin Paiute who, inspired by his Creator and his culture, has spent decades crafting duck decoys out of tule reeds, feathers, and other natural resources found around the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, outside Fallon. These modernday decoys are as close as it gets to the ones made thousands of years ago by his ancestors, including a famous set discovered in Lovelock Cave in the 1920s. These, along with several of Williams' pieces, are proudly housed in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC and are Nevada's official state artifact.

# STOMPING GROUNDS

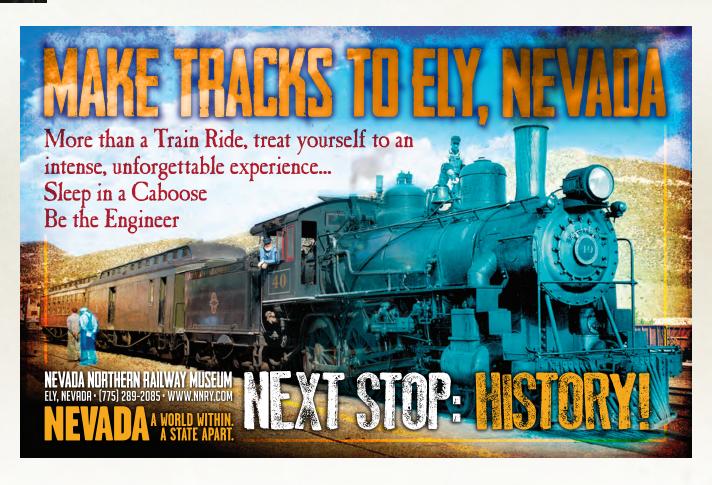
# **Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway**

A 20-mile self-guided tour through breathtaking scenery and rich historical locations deposits you at Lovelock Cave, where 60 years of work uncovered a whopping 10,000 ancient specimens, from skeletal remains to cultural artifacts.

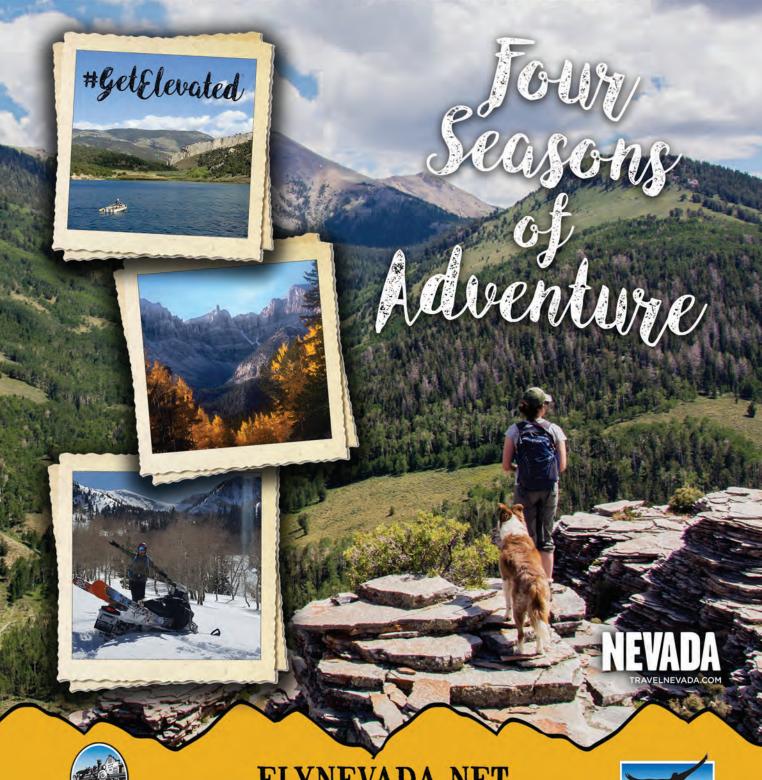
# **Churchill County Museum and Archives**

Among nearly 14,000 square feet of Nevada history you'll find the state's best display of tule duck decoys-including many of Williams'-along with basketry, arrowhead collections, and other artifacts gathered from caves of spiritual importance to ancient tribes. Free admission.





# NEVADA'S GREAT BASIN



ELYNEVADA.NET GREATBASINHERITAGE.ORG









THINGS TO DO IN NEVADA

# Maybe it's Item #1 on your Bucket List. Or maybe it's just the best wrong turn you ever took...

Point is, whichever corner of this state you venture to, you're bound to uncover the kind of unexpected encounters, memorable characters, and only-in-Nevada experiences that make this place so damn special.

Especially to those genuine travelers. Those who consider themselves participants, not just tourists. Those who prefer to fully absorb a place's essence-not simply see it, snap it, and roll on. Those who've tasted authenticity and will no longer settle for anything less.

Always suckers for this state's unmatched spontaneity, we're never going to tell you how to live your life, or even exactly how to plan your trip. But as a team of native and born-again Nevadaholics-from backcountry solace-seekers to Vintage Vegas virtuosos and other all-around Silver State aficionados-well...

Alright, you got us. Turns out we just might have a few favorite suggestions on how to

go home with MORE **STORIES** than souvenirs.

























**CHITHRE** 

NG SAC





Catching a charge off a storied "Washoe Zephyr," and discovering that even Mark Twain couldn't fully articulate that wind's exhilarating fury.

#### **OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT**

Walking amongst 1850s history and discovering the ironic birthplace of modern-day Las Vegas.



#### You may already know what's up at Lake Tahoe. Or even at Valley of Fire. They're famous—and popular—for a good reason.

But all of Nevada's state parks and state recreation areas teem with marvelous superlatives, qualities that set them apart from any other place on Earth, each ready to surprise you with its own secret stash of snag-worthy magic moments you'll be ticking off the bucket list, maybe before you even knew they were on it. Here are 16 to get you on your way.

#### **CATHEDRAL GORGE**

Squeezing your way through suck-it-in territory to reach some beautifully otherworldly slot canyons.

Hit this on a road trip along the Great Basin Highway!





#### LAKE TAHOE NEVADA

Earning Polar Bear Club cred in the one of the clearest, coldest bodies of water on Earth ... and learning to crave its tasty bite.

Dive deeper into what to do around "Big Blue" on pg. 20-23



#### FORT CHURCHILL / **BUCKLAND STATION**

Dialing in that EMF detector for a good ol' fashioned army ghost hunt, right in the heart of your very own galaxy.





#### WARD CHARCOAL **OVENS**

Taking an inside look at six beehive-shaped kilns that once doubled as a hideaway for Wild West renegades.

#### **BEAVER DAM**

Hiking through a forest of beaver stumps, realizing you've finally bit into that "onewith-nature" moment of solitude.



#### **ECHO CANYON**

Admiring some 150-year-old wagon axle-grease "pioneer graffiti."





#### SPRING MOUNTAIN RANCH

Embracing the enchanting essence of the Mojave after a warm summer rain.

#### **BERLIN-ICHTHYOSAUR**

Seeing just how many wannabe



"fingers" you can count on those gigantic fossilized ickys.



#### SPRING VALLEY

Roaring into what feels like the set of a Harley-Davidson commercial.



#### **DAYTON**

Paying homage to the 160-yearold silver mill that helped build San Francisco.



#### **KERSHAW-RYAN**

Happening upon a literally "gorge-ous" real-life oasis.



#### **MORMON STATION**

Seeing where this whole Nevada thing got started, with a little Pony Express history to boot.

**ELEPHANT ROCK, VALLEY OF FIRE** 



Shishin' some lakeside kabobs under tasty summertime skies, including at one of the few reservable yurts in the state. Photo provided by Nevada State Parks



#### TURN THE PAGE TO MAP OUT YOUR JOURNEY »



Hanging 10 on a very differentand maybe even more spectacular-kind of wave.

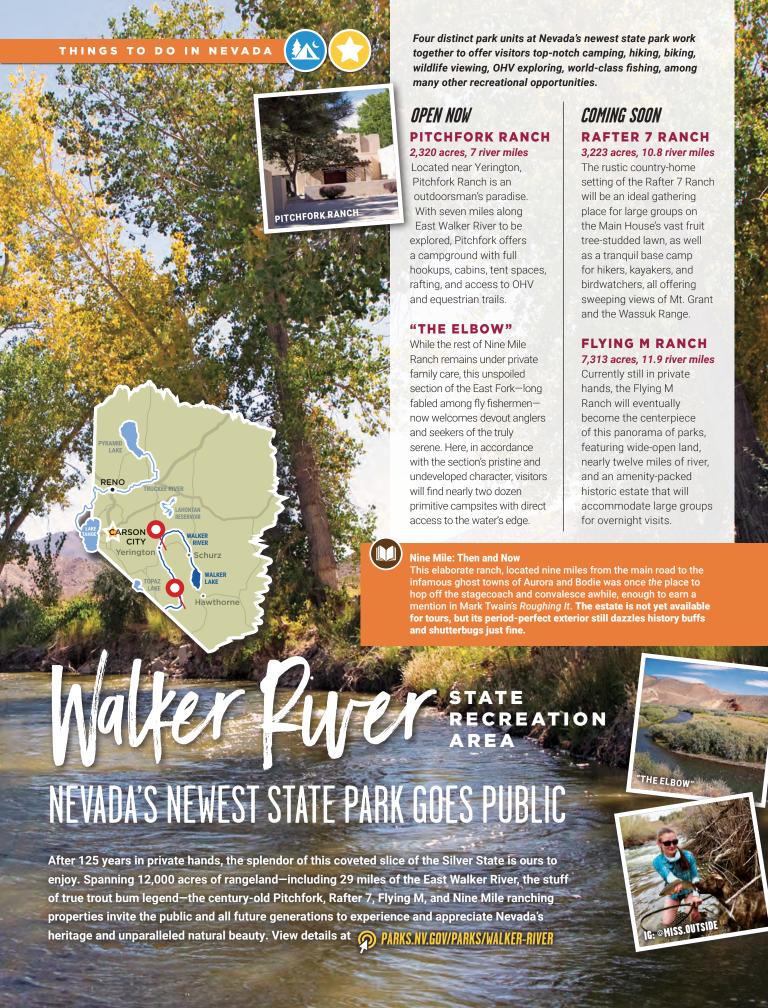


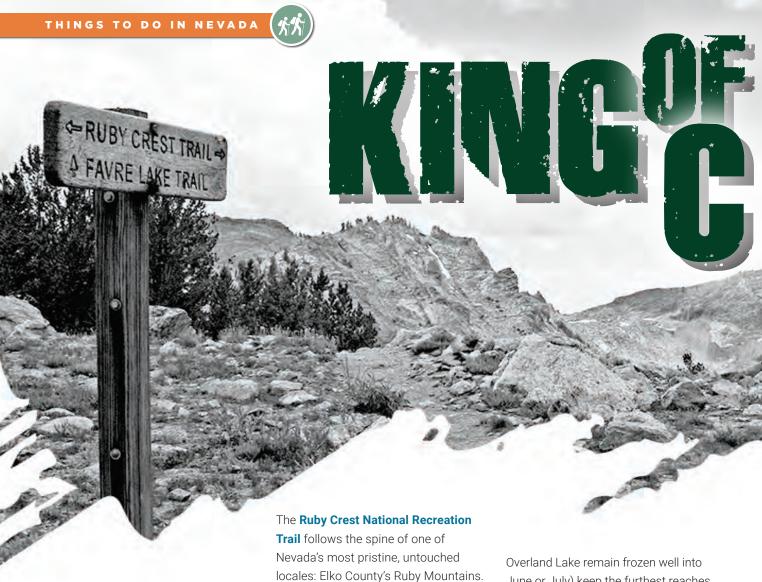
Catch it and more along the scenic route on our Neon to Nature road trip pg. 16-17



TravelNevada PRO TIP: Valley of Fire is nothing short of stunning, especially in the early morning or at golden hour. To experience these magic moments, be sure to plan well ahead and reserve a campsite. Any non-campers in the park before sunrise or after dark are trespassing.







By Charlie Johnston | Nevada Magazine

With more than 300 named mountain ranges, millions of acres of rugged, untamed wilderness, and thousands of miles of trails, it's safe to say the Silver State offers hikers and backpackers a lifetime of exploration.

Its sole paved access point—the dramatic and picturesque Lamoille Canyon Road—sees its fair share of day-trippers and overnight visitors. But rugged terrain and lingering snow (many high lakes and the pass above

June or July) keep the furthest reaches of the range reserved for the hardy few who venture out on foot or horseback.

This trail is often navigated from south (Harrison Pass) to north, but I suggest the reverse. Starting in Lamoille Canyon ensures you'll be fresh when the scenery is best!

**ON DAY ONE** the trail ascends from road's end past Dollar Lakes and Lamoille Lake—excellent places to camp if you get a late start (or you get distracted by the **unbeatable trout fishing**)—and through



Get castin' on pg. 80-81

a series of switchbacks to 10,450-foot Liberty Pass. The descent from the pass



highest point at 10,863 feet—and follows

camp at Overland Lake. Stunning views

the crest most of the way to the next

reward the challenges of this section,

which include high elevation, extended

DIFFICULTY Moderate

RUBY CREST TRAIL DISTANCE ~35 miles ELEVATION 7.200' - 10.893'

PERMITS REQUIRED None **BEST TIME TO GO** July to Sept. DOG FRIENDLY Woof! ("Yes.") NEAREST TOWN Lamoille, Spring Creek, Elko

#### NEED A LIFT?

Leave your vehicle at trail's end and have Cowboy John Tours shuttle you to the start. No car? No problem. He'll pick you up and drop you off just about anywhere you want.

leads to Liberty and Favre Lakes, where many people make first camp.

If there is still daylight to burn and your legs are up to it, North Furlong Lake, another couple miles down trail, is also a fine place to camp. Alternatively, a short detour along Furlong Creek past waterfalls and beaver dams is a nice use of an afternoon.

This section is also the place for a chance viewing of mountain goats; if you approach a herd quietly from downwind, it's possible to get within 100 yards.

periods

without a

water source

nearby, and

the potential

for wind.

Before reaching Overland Lake, the trail leaves the crest and traverses the steep eastern aspect of the range. There is a first come, first served primitive cabin at the north end of the lake that you are welcome to camp in, but you can also tent it up under the stars, too.

DAY THREE starts with a calf-burning climb up the final high pass of the trail, which can remain snow-covered through summer. You've just earned your last look at the high peaks of the Rubies—"America's alps"—to the north.

From here south, the scenery is dominated by the stunning colors of the Great Basin. The trail drops quickly to the western aspect of the range and crosses the North, Middle, and South Forks of Smith Creek and traverses the western flanks of Green Mountain before reaching the Green Mountain Trailhead.

Most backpackers opt for this spot—or a little further south along fourwheel-drive tracks to Harrison Pass Road-to leave a shuttle vehicle or prearrange a ride back to Lamoille Canyon.

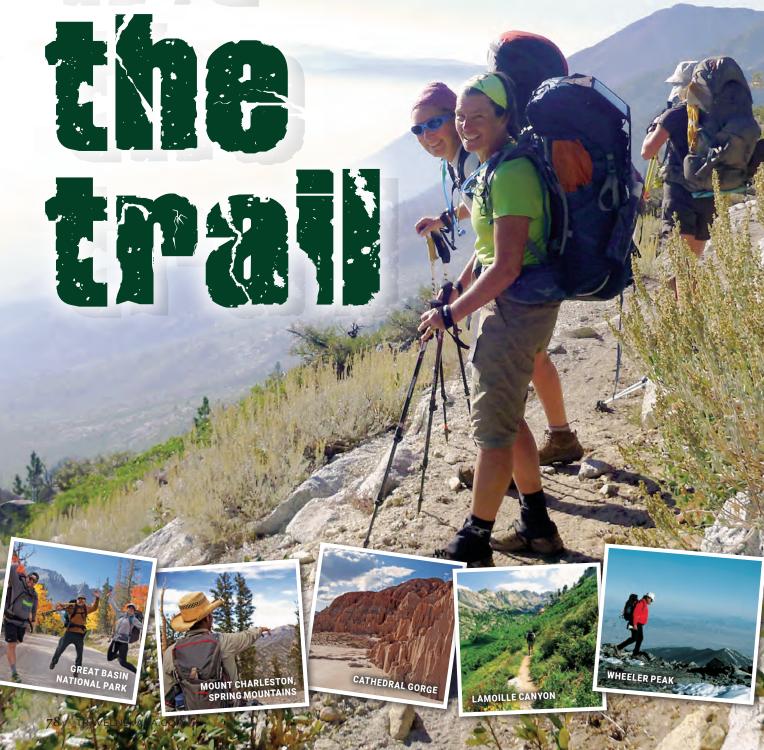


On your way back to civilization, be sure to stop at the classic **Jiggs Bar** for something ice cold to toast your accomplishment.





From easy ambles to alpine scrambles, appealing to casual out-and-back day trippers to hardcore, toothbrush-chopping wilderness thru-hikers alike, Nevada is a pedestrian's paradise.



MT. ROSE WILDERNESS

Choose from several loop or out-and-back trails through meadows and up to peaks with panoramic views of Lake Tahoe and the Great Basin.

TAHOE RIM TRAIL

165-mile trail circumnavigating magnificent Lake Tahoe via lush meadows, alpine lakes, and rocky passes in eight trail sections, ideal for both thru-hiking and day hikes.

TOIYABE CREST TRAIL

75 miles of trail—mostly above the timberline with 100-mile views—straddling the towering Toiyabe Range, with access to 11,477' Bunker Hill and 11,781' Arc Dome. Thru-hikes: 2-3 nights with an elevation range of 6,345' – 11,775'.

4 LAMOILLE CANYON

Numerous trails to trout-packed alpine lakes and glacier-carved hanging valleys, including access to the **Ruby Crest Trail.** 

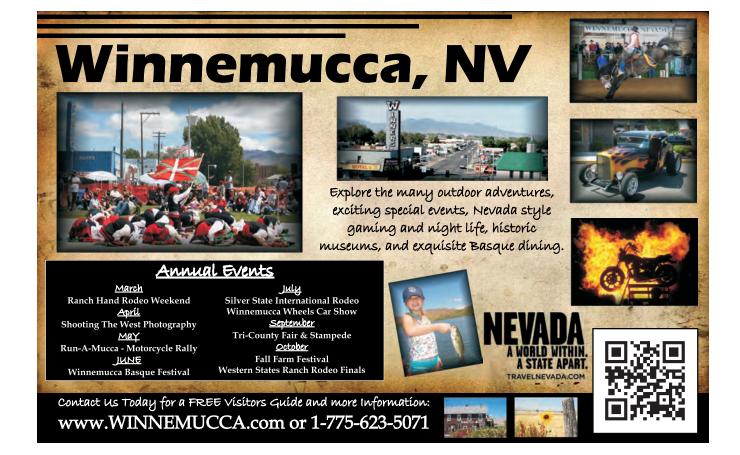
5 GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

Everything from guided cave tours and easy walks among ancient bristlecone pine forests to challenging ascents up to 13,064' Wheeler Peak.



Get the scoop on more amazing Nevada parks on pg. 72-73

SPRING MOUNTAINS & MT. CHARLESTON WILDERNESS AREA
40 miles of hiking trails for all skill levels just 45 minutes from the Las Vegas Strip.





# Nevada: Just one big desert? Smells fishy...

Nevada has more than 200 lakes and reservoirs, and 600 streams and rivers, where fishing abounds. Nevada's mountain ranges even offer ice fishing for those brave enough to explore the alpine lakes.

From the **Jarbidge River** in the north to the Colorado River in the south, fishing holes dot the landscape. Some locals' favorites are Pyramid Lake on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation, where anglers cast flies from submerged ladders for Lahontan cutthroat trout. a salmon-sized fish once believed to be extinct; or the section of the East Walker River around Yerington, home of the brand new Walker **River State Recreation Area.** 

The state also is ridged with mountain ranges, many of which hold alpine lakes that freeze over in winter. There also are many

reservoirs throughout the state, including Cave Lake near Ely and the South Fork Reservoir near Elko.

IG: @KELLYVANGARDAS

Check out area visitors bureaus pg. 119 for info on sites and outfitters, or stop by a local fly shop in Reno, Elko, Gardnerville, or Las Vegas for local wisdom and a fish tale or two.

# DON'T FORGET **YOUR LICENSE!**

Get yourself legal, courtesy of the Nevada Department of Wildlife.



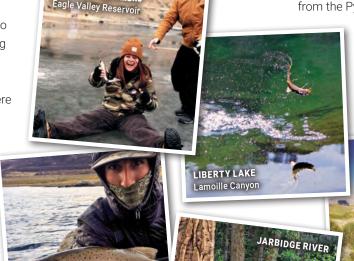
#### 🕥 NDOW.ORG/FISH

Already here? Grab it at one of the state's license agents a list can be found on the NDOW website

The NDOW site also has the Nevada Fishing Guide, as well as information on where to fish, stocking updates and more.

If you're fishing Pyramid Lake, you will need a permit from the Pyramid Lake Paiute

> Tribe. For details and permits, visit PyramidLake.us, and click on the fishing link.





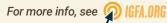
# EARN THE TROUT ROYAL SLAM!

LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT

Best Place: Pyramid Lake

BROOK

Found throughout Nevada



LAKE / MACKINAW
Best Places: Lake Tahoe, Ruby Mountains



# WHERE THE BRAVEST

# MOUNT CHARLESTON/ SPRING MOUNTAINS LAS VEGAS

Nearly 200 hard limestone routes known for overhanging caves and epic vistas.



#### LAMOILLE CANYON ELKO

Glacially-carved layered granite ripe for sport climbing, top rope, and bouldering. Nevada's ice climbing capital in winter. With relatively few established routes, this rock beckons trailblazers.

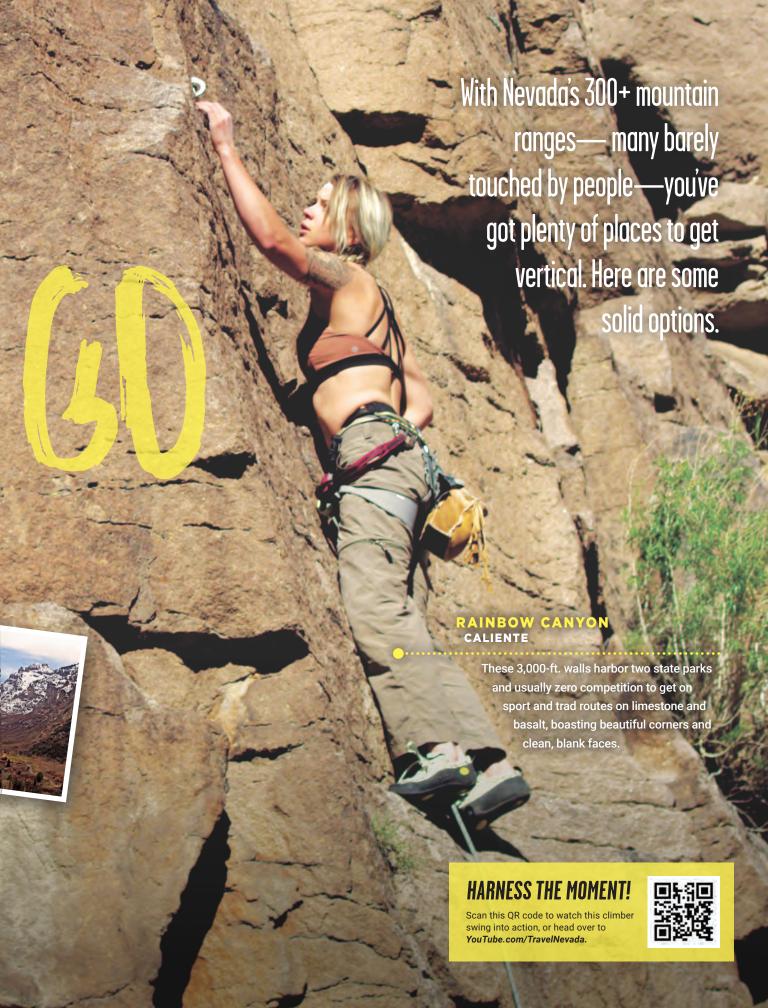
Discover more about this stunning corner of the Silver State on The Rubies Route pg. 40-42



#### BASECAMP RENO

RENO

The world's tallest climbing wall rises 200 feet above the Reno Arch up the side of the Whitney Peak Hotel, with bouldering and a kids' room indoors.



# ISMY SPIRIT By Russell Mont Photos by Russell Tyler and Ron dithem. But I neve

By Russell Monteleone | Adventurer Photos by Russell Montelone

Tyler and Ron did go on to tackle a few of them. But I never got the chance to climb any big mountains with my brother again. Instead, a team of friends and I would ascend Mount Shasta and spread his ashes from the summit. In life, he had always wanted to ski off the top of a volcano. We felt he'd agree this was the next best thing.

That's when I started training. Eventually, with a dozen or so high peaks in California and Nevada under my belt, the mountains became my home.

I met Tom over Indian food after a mutual friend observed, "Hey! You guys have beards and like being cold in the mountains... you should hang out!" It proved to be solid logic. Our first climbing trip was on some multi-pitch granite just west of Reno up the Truckee River canyon. The exposed sections of climbing made my stomach sink, but the fresh exposure and stunning alpine views left me breathless. Noticing my fear and excitement, Tom offered his patience, encouragement, and knowledge, as he would over a few more climbs. Before long Tom asked: "Hey, bro! Wanna go to Red Rocks?" I knew enough to know he didn't mean a jam band show in Colorado.

If you haven't heard of Nevada's Red Rock Canyon, you've been living under a (someother-color-than-red) rock. Thousands of routes—traditional, sport, bouldering, and top rope—all reside within a stone's throw of Las Vegas. If you want to ditch the comfort of the gym and push your abilities to the next level, this is the place. Even if you still prefer colored holds and forgiving difficulty

y first time climbing at Red Rock, I had no idea we were about to mountaineer a rock face the same height as Yosemite's Half Dome.

#### RED ROCK RENDEZVOUS

The best all-climbing gathering, festival, and party weekend in the west. Join us in 2020.

Visit RedRockRendevous.com for more details.

Find even more events on pg. 112-115

RED ROCK CANYON

Truth is, I had never planned to make climbing a full-time hobby—let alone become a guide—until that trip to the Sierra Nevada with by brother Tyler and his mentor, Ron. When we summited Crystal Crag, I looked out over the expanse. Suddenly I felt serenity, wonder and fear all together at the incredible views and gutwrenching exposure in a way I never had before. We could see from Boundary Peak—Nevada's tallest—to the Ritter Range. Right then, we vowed to climb them all.

ratings, no problem—all of the routes are marked with chalk, for tens of thousands of feet. And then there's the big stuff.

The climb Tom and I were eyeing was up



nephros, meaning "atop the kidney"—a piece of real estate that the adrenal glands call home. When engaged, the glands' job is to spark a chain reaction, raising heart

# Take a minute, catch your breath.



rate, expanding bronchial tubes, increasing blood pressure, and constricting veins-all to help richly oxygenated blood reach the brain, lungs, and heart more efficiently. The price for this boost includes pounding heart, hypertension, tremors, cardiac arrythmia, anxiety attacks, and panic. Look it up in a medical textbook and you might find a picture of me. Because in my case, it would be all of the above.

#### Epinephrine, huh? Can't be that bad. And so we climbed.

And climbed and climbed up this sandstone cathedral to the top of Black Tower, where the route descriptions said we'd find the most difficult part of the climb-the "crux." It's a feature called a squeeze chimney, which literally puts you between a rock (the Black Tower) and a hard place (the rest of the Black Velvet Wall). Imagine Santa Claus

stuffing himself upward between a hundred feet of nearly featureless red sandpaper... here, that's you.

It started out like a normal chimney: feet opposing posterior, hands pushing up from the sides or out to nudge my back a few inches. I'd done this before. But then as I approached the ledge where Tom stood, feet firm, keeping me on tight belay from above... the walls began closing in. And in and in. Inching upward, I felt my technique faltering. No matter how hard I kicked it away, claustrophobia grabbed at more of me-why did the walls keep getting closer-until BAM, I was in its clutches doing exactly what I knew you are not supposed to do. Losing track of my breathing. Hearing the "I Can't" narrative

> rearing its ugly, persuasive voiceand falling for it. (Oh God, falling?) And feeling my gaze pulled straight down into the abyss until it was staring right back up at me.

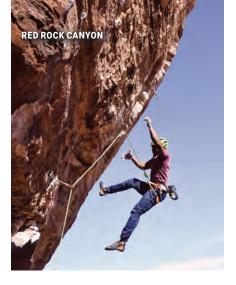
That's when I heard the voice. "TAKE! TAKE, TOM!?" It was my own, yelling uselessly as my hands and feet clawed at the blank walls like a cat on a glass screen door, my panic convincing me I'd lost the strength to hold myself up against the walls. Tom velled down, "GOT, bro! Just fall and rest!" If I'd been

listening, I might've heard the note of concern sneak into Tom's tone. "You're on top rope, I got you from up here!" he reminded me. It was true; he still had me from above. Still, my ego and pride kept me swimming an inch at a time, like I was trying to punch someone in a dream for what seemed like hours.

When I was safely over the ledge, relief didn't last long, my panic triggering Tom's... his further triggering mine in an endless loop. We pondered setting up a rappel and calling it as my body pulsed, my adrenal glands... heart, lungs, spleen... amygdala... my whole being.

#### Epinephrine, for sure.

"Hey man." Tom broke the silence. "I'm gonna go set up this intermediate anchor... OK? That way, we can head either up or



down. Take a minute, catch your breath. Then you let me know what you want to do."

I stared up into the next pitch. Here, 600 feet up, I knew it wouldn't get more difficult than the crux. Still, the urge to guit was overpowering. Like never before, the comforts of the ground called to me. Fourteen hundred more feet of this? What if I can't pull it together? Why am I up here? Does Tom even want to climb with me anymore? I'm not strong enough.

#### WHY DO I CLIMB?

Just then a hummingbird buzzed up from nowhere. It hovered with me for what must have been a full minute, flitting back and forth while I gazed back through watery eyes. Framed by a sea of varnished red and

# Serenity came over me... perhaps my visitor was more than just a little bird.

tan sandstone, this little guy was looking at no one else but me.

A serenity came over me, one I hadn't felt since I first climbed with my brother, a feeling I'd remembered in all the years he'd now been gone. And I couldn't help but think: perhaps my visitor was more than just a

Before I could say anything, the hummingbird flew upward and out of sight around the ledge. I knew what to tell Tom as I headed over to the base of the next pitch...

"We're going up, bro." 《





#### HOT SPRINGING HOW-TO

#### GOOGLE MAPS AIN'T GONNA CUT IT

In rural Nevada, Google Maps is just about as handy as a full-on scuba setup on the playa. Spring for a topo map or, even better, invest in a super-detailed atlas and get down on some good old-fashioned navigating.

# GRAB THE RIGHT GARMENTS

Most Nevada hot springs are surrounded by a muddy alkali surface that you won't be able to drive on. When hunting down a spring, plan to park a good ways away, whether there's weather or not. Bring a pair of shoes that you're not afraid to get messy in. Another foolproof trick? Bring a cozy aprés-soak robe, outfit, or even spare suit, because who wants to spring-hop in wet stuff?

## LIVE BY THE BUDDY SYSTEM

Heading out for the weekend? It's a smart idea to let a friend know what section of the state you're heading to, and it's always a good idea to bring friends along with you.

# LEAVE IT HOW YOU FOUND IT

Being a good steward is what hot springing is all about. There are phenomenal hot springs on private land, and many Nevada ranchers out here let people enjoy them, as long as they don't trash them. If the gate on the road is open, leave it open. If you found it closed, close the gate once you've passed through. And of course, anything you pack in (or find that shouldn't be there), always pack it out.

Preserve the thrill of the hunt! See those geotags?
Of course you don't. Sure, these soakers 'Grammed their shots. But respect the springs and keep them off the map where they belong.



#### THINK BEFORE YOU DIP

Many classic Nevada soaks are in a pool, old bathtub, or even cattle trough with water piped into it from a much hotter source nearby. Things can change fast out here, including thermal activity, so always check the temperature before hopping in. Done tubbing? If there's a valve to control flow, leave a trickle—not a raging torrent—to keep the water primed for its next guests. And with extremely hot pools often nearby, be sure to keep close tabs on your pups, too.

#### **DON'T BE A GEO-BAG**

So! You found a glorious spring and want to show off the view to friends and fans on your social feed. If you must post the shot, go for it. You've earned it and studied your etiquette; just be sure you **DO NOT GEOTAG IT** for those who haven't. In recent years, too many internet-blasted spots have ended up overrun, trashed, and closed down. Luckily, dozens of Nevada hot springs

remain pristine and relatively hushhush... help us keep them that way for all of us.

## CAMPING? GIVE IT SOME SPACE

Park your tents, vans, etc. far enough from the spring that your camp doesn't hog the view or hijack the ambiance. Private property? Camping is frowned upon without permission or a sign that says you can. Campfires are fun, but be aware of all local restrictions and NEVER leave one smoldering; make sure that bad boy is drowned and out before you hit the road.

#### WHAT DRESS CODE?

It's normal to rock up to a spring and find everyone in suits of the swim OR birthday variety. While there is no set rule, respect and courtesy go a long way. If you find a tub full of bareit-all bathers, no one will make you "follow suit." Likewise, if you show up underdressed to a shirts-and-shorts



**No glass-holes allowed!** A sip when you dip is one of life's true joys, but keep it to cans, cups, and other unbreakable vessels only.

convention, gauge the group. They should be OK with you stripping down, but you could ask politely or at least slip in discreetly. As in life, just don't be a weirdo and the good times should flow for everyone.





# 

#NVGHOSTTOWN

Nevada holds the rare distinction of having more ghost towns than "live" ones. Out of more more than 600, here are several of our favorites.

Intrigued? Discover even more Nevada ghost towns and the info you need to get there on

TRAVELNEVADA.COM/GHOSTTOWNS

# RHYOLITE 🥝

One of the most photographed ghost towns in the West, Rhyolite stands guard at Death Valley's eastern entrance, ushering visitors through the passage of time and

space and terrain. Among its stubborn remnants, the famed *Tom Kelly Bottle House*, constructed of nearly 50,000 bottles, has been restored and hints at an eccentricity sown throughout the Wild West.

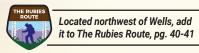
Make it a stop on The Death Drive, pg. 26-27

THE DEATH ( DRIVE )

> RHYOLITE Photo by Neil Lockhart

#### **METROPOLIS**

An ornate stone schoolhouse archway, crumbling hotel ruins, and a cemetery are what remains of Metropolis' would-be glory. This community of 1,000 or so residents also enjoyed a newspaper and even a railway before succumbing to scourges of jackrabbits and Mormon crickets in the 1910s.



#### **ELDORADO CANYON**

Home of the oldest and most famous gold mine in southern Nevada, now popular with photographers, history buffs, and movie location scouts. Visitors



Add it to your Neon to Nature excursion, pg. 16-17 Techatticup Mine,

can tour the once owned by

famed politician and publisher George Hearst, and explore the mine and town that was so remote that it became famous for its ruthless vigilantism.

#### GOLD POINT (D) (D) (D)









Roam the sprawling, artifact-filled blocks of Nevada's "friendly ghost town," then chow down on home-cooked grub, sip fine bourbon in a beautifully-preserved historic saloon, and bed down in miners' cabins at this rare privately-run ghost town bed and breakfast.

(A) GOLDPOINTGHOSTTOWN.COM

#### BERLIN

Now protected as half of Berlin-Ichthyosaur



Head to pg. 72-74 for more great Nevada state parks

State Park, this mountainside-clinging town's 130-year-old buildings-including an impressive 30-stamp mill-stand but a bone's throw from the highest concentration of the largest fossils



Detour here from the Loneliest Road, pg. 12-13 of Ichthyosaurs, huge Mesozoic marine reptiles, ever found.

# What goes **BOOM** must go **BUST**





# Nevada's New Mountain Bike Mecca





# By **Leslie Kehmeier**Adventurer | Club Ride Ambassador Brought to you by Club Ride Apparel Photos by Leslie Kehmeier

If you're a mountain bike adventurer like me, there is no doubt that you

Just two and a half hours north of Las Vegas, surrounded by layers of extensive basins and beautiful mountains, sits a town that will eventually be one of the new meccas of mountain biking in the American West.

have already broken out the maps and planned some killer road trips this year. If your wanderlust happens to draw attention to the desert southwest, make sure you look past Hurricane, UT and Las Vegas to consider the small town of Caliente. Nevada.

You might not have heard of it yet, but I have been there. I have seen the beginning as well as the future.

Caliente, nestled into the vast 10,700 square miles of Lincoln County, has been blessed with a landscape that caters to a number of different outdoor recreation pursuits—now including



# You might not have heard of it yet, but I have been there. I have seen the beginning as well as the future.

mountain biking. It is so diverse in this part of the US, that it is possible to grow pecans at one end of the county and potatoes on the other.

It was only a couple years ago when the idea of a mountain bike destination was still just a dream for Caliente. But a lot can change in a short amount of time. And after a lot of hard work and planning, the trails have become a reality. Barnes Canyon hosts 12 miles of singletrack trail as well as an extensive bike park smack dab in the middle of town.

#### THE CALIENTE MOUNTAIN **BIKE SKILLS PARK**

Big berms, rollers, and serious tabletop jumps now dot the sides of the mountain above Strawberry Hill, just off Highway 93 and Ada Street. While these features are things you might not expect to see in a southern Nevada town, believe it or not, it is exactly what you will find.

Multiple flow trails, both technical and playful, cascade down gravity-fed slopes into the progressive dirt jump park anchored by a concrete pump track. It is an amazing place to have loads

of fun while improving your skills at the same time. It may also be one of the best

places in town to watch one of Caliente's aweinspiring sunsets.

#### **BARNES CANYON MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS**

Just minutes down Clover Canyon, to the northwest of town, is Barnes Canyon. The area has a unique landscape dominated

by muted green piñon-juniper forests covering jagged limestone slopes. The TeePee Rocks-white-colored, tent-like formations—are the signature features of the canyon, striking a sharp contrast against the almost-daily bluebird skies. The current offering of trails takes you around, through, and under these geologic features, showcasing the strange beauty that Barnes has to offer,

- Skills Trail
- Pump Track
- Spectator Zone

#### BARNES CANYON MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS 1400 SOUTH FRONT ST.

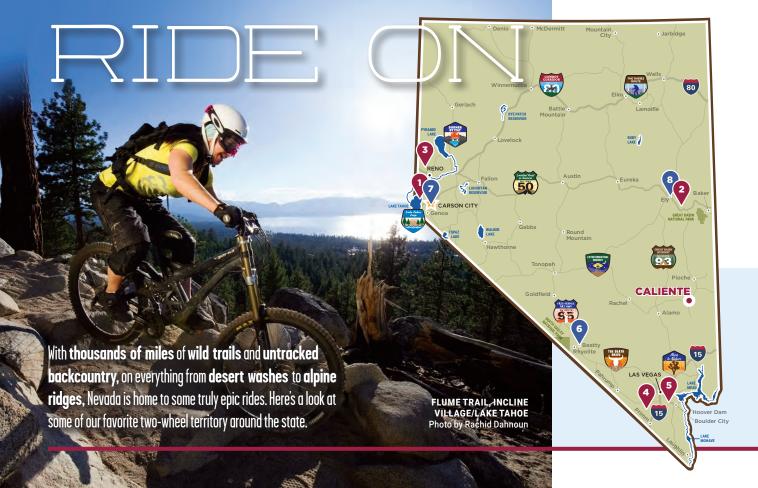
4 miles from Caliente

12 mi of dedicated singletrack

#### JUST AROUND THE BEND

- COMING FALL 2019: Expansion to nearly 20 mi
- COMING SPRING 2020: Full trailhead





as well as stunning panoramic views of the Clover Mountains and Meadow Valley.

The Barnes Canyon Mountain Bike
Trails system offers something for all
skill levels. From fast and flowy to rocky
and technical, beginners to advanced
riders can find a fun and challenging
experience. Several loop options get
more difficult and technical the higher up
the canyon rim you go.



With more singletrack in the works through the end of this year, there is no doubt mountain bikers will have plenty more to discover in the coming years.

# CALIENTE: EVERYTHING YOU NEED

Caliente is a simple town. It has everything you need and nothing you don't. There are a few hotels, a couple of restaurants serving hearty food, and a grocery store that will cover the spectrum of low budget to highmaintenance food and supplies. If self-contained is your style, the surrounding BLM lands can offer you both solitude and quick access to recreation.

So what do you think? Ready to hit some trails on your next road trip? Then don't forget to make a stop in Caliente, Nevada.



# THE FLUME TRAIL

Afraid of heights? Then avoid this famed 4.5-mile singletrack that hugs cliffs 2,500 feet above breathtaking Lake Tahoe and miss what may be the best views from any bike trail on Earth

# 2 CAVE LAKE STATE PARK | ELY

Hard-packed gravel and more than 20 miles of well-built singletrack weaving through deer and elk habitat among limestone cliffs, forests of aspen, piñon, and juniper.

Relatively flat & wide. Suitable for **BEGINNERS** in good health with basic bike skills and **MOST TYPES OF BIKE.** 

Some "single-track" sections and small obstacles like roots and rocks. Suitable for **EXPERIENCED RIDERS** in good health with basic off-road riding skills and **BASIC MOUNTAIN BIKES**.

Greater challenge and difficulty. Expect large and unavoidable features. Suitable for EXPERT MOUNTAIN BIKERS with high level of fitness and QUALITY OFF-ROAD MOUNTAIN BIKES.

# 

20+ miles of interconnected singletrack crisscross this broad, sage-studded mountainside, earning sweeping southward views of the Biggest Little City.

# BADGER PASS LOOP BLUE DIAMOND

Eight miles of singletrack with a slow, steady climb leading to fun, mildly technical downhills against a wide-open backdrop of Red Rock Canyon.

# 5 BOOTLEG CANYON | BOULDER CITY

IMBA certified-Epic expanse featuring

24 trails over 35 miles of dusty desert singletrack, ranging from easy loops to rocky technical rollers to killer gravity-testing downhill long-bombs.



Tinker Classic—Beatty, April 19-21
It's "Leadville meets Burning Man" at this threeday festival, honoring MTB champ Tinker Juarez, with a
100K race and a family-friendly 60k Gravel Gran Fondo
through Death Valley National Park.

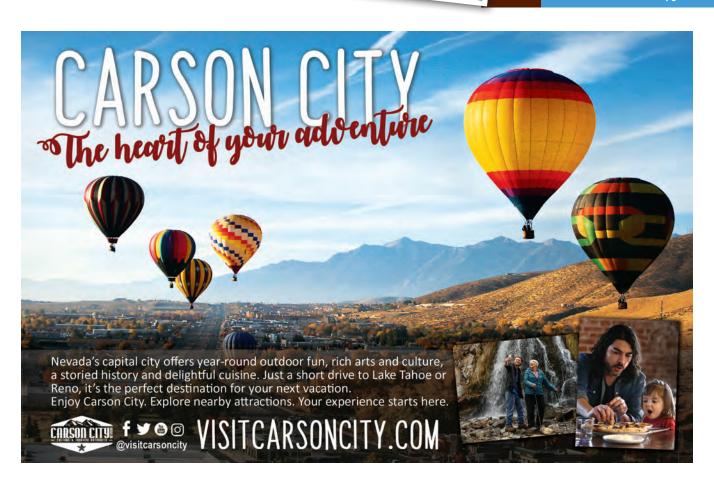
# Epic Rides: Carson City Off Road Carson City, June 14-16

15, 35, or 50 mile segments featuring singletrack, doubletrack, and gravel featuring vistas of Lake Tahoe and Carson Valley, with a 98% finish rate and a massive weekend-long street party.

# Fears, Tears, and Beers Ely, June 9

The country's oldest enduro race. Pedal to a mountaintop, then tackle twisties and sprints on two to six timed sections. Oh, and roll through two casinos on the way.

Check out more events on pg. 112-115





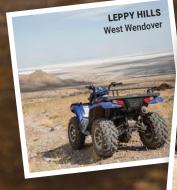








Nearly 85% of Nevada is public land. That means there are literally thousands of miles of dirt roads, trails, and tracks crisscrossing over 300 mountain ranges, open valleys, desert canyons, and everything in between—just begging OHV-ers to come explore. And now it's easier than ever.









**The Silver State multiple-use trail** also welcomes adventurers hardy enough to tackle this terrain with human power, including backpackers and even bikepackers. Just use your head and watch (and listen) for off-roaders.

View an interactive map and get the full

dirt on your next off-road adventure at

O OHV.NV.GOV/TRAILS.

IG: @MWGOLDENVOX

# Last year an all-star team of federal, state, and local agencies, nonprofits, and dozens of communities joined forces to on 36 OHV trail systems and hundreds of routes in every corner of the state. Say hello to Off Road Nevada.

establish a one-stop shop for

and regs, and other great info

SAND MOUNTAIN

West of Fallon

maps, KML/KMZ files, rules

# Silver State Off-Highway Vehicle Trail

The long-awaited Silver State
Trail is officially open, and it's
definitely a big deal. The first
Congressionally-designated offhighway vehicle trail ever loops
its way around **260 miles of wild Nevada backcountry.** Designed
with families in mind, well-marked
sections—from easy gravel roads
to challenging tracks—traverse
high mountaintops and panoramic
basins, where elk and antelope
roam as great horned owls and
golden eagles soar.

Staging areas and access roads

can be found along the

Great Basin Highway

pg. 44-45, while fuel, supplies, and the rewarding prospect of hot showers beckon in the communities of Caliente,

Panaca, and Pioche. Meanwhile, plans are already in the works to tap

into vast trail
networks both
north and south
to extend the "SST"
from Arizona on up to the
Idaho border.

#### Backcountry offroading at its very best

260 mi | 4,000 - 7,500 ft elev. Beginner to Advanced Lincoln County, Nevada



# WINTER WONDERLAND

Nevada might just be the most underrated winter destination in America.

HERE'S WHY...

By Sarah Feldberg | Matador Network





There are plenty of places in Tahoe to work on your turns, but for Instagram-worthy views at affordable prices, **Diamond Peak** is the destination. *Lift tickets won't drain your bank* **account, trails look like they empty right into the lake, and there's a full calendar of events to keep you entertained.** Plus, with plenty of snowmaking guns, there's always enough snow on the ground, no matter what the weather does.



Lake Tahoe Resort is your place.

If your idea of a good time involves virgin powder, pristine bowls, and killer chutes, grab your GoPro, 'cause Nevada's calling. We're talking 4,000-foot verticals and plenty of powder, but not another soul in sight. For a more extreme adventure, book a trip with Ruby Mountains Heli-Experience and let a bird drop you into wicked terrain in an area with 10 peaks over 11,000 feet.





Winter in Nevada brings the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, an arts and culture festival dedicated to ranching, rural living, and the American West. That means original poetry about the magic and reality of life on the range, recited by actual cowboys, as well as dozens of musical performances, a film festival, and workshops on everything from hat-making to harmonica to rodeo swing dancing.



Photo courtesy of Lee Canyon OR SKI **an hour** from the LAS VEGAS STRIP There's an après-ski pint at the lodge and then there's soothing sore legs with a trip to a lavish casino spa. One hour

Photo courtesy of Borges Family Sleigh Rides

Nobody wants a partridge in a pear tree, but your Christmas-carol fantasies can come to glorious life with a picturesque sleigh ride along Lake Tahoe or down the historic Pony Express Trail. Borges Family Sleigh Rides has been offering Belgian draft horse-powered rips for nearly 50 years—because riding sleighs is way more fun than singing about them.



from the Strip, Lee Canyon has 24 liftserviced trails, hiking routes, and 445 total acres of skiable terrain. And when your quads need a break, the tubing hill, complete with lift, beckons. You'll feel a world away from Las Vegas... and still be back in time for happy hour.



Don't get us wrong. We love a good kale hash or white truffle gnocchi or chrysanthemum martini as much as the next food-lovers. And these days Nevada's cuisine scene is pretty dang haute... However! When we're cruising around the Silver State, sometimes we just find ourselves craving some **tried-and-true Nevada flavors** and a classic haunt to savor it all in. Here's a light menu of where to find some.



Check out the (1) Loneliest Food In America Podcast for more food inspiration. Or learn more about Middlegate Station's Monster Burger (shown above).







#### **BREWERIES**

With 15 breweries in Reno, another dozen in Vegas, and several more around the state, you're never far from some Silver State suds.

Revision Brewing Co. | Reno and Sparks
Alibi Ale Works | Incline Village
Tonopah Brewing Co. | Tonopah
Hop Nuts Brewing | LV Arts District
Ruby Mountain Brewing Co.

Clover Valley (south of Wells)

#### **DINERS & DIVES**

You know the deal. If you leave hungry, you did it wrong.

The Griddle | Winnemucca
Rosie's Place | Wellington
The Dinky Diner | Goldfield
The Coffee Cup | Boulder City
Hunter's Grub 'N Go
Amargosa Valley

# SAGEBRUSH SALOONS

Less polished than a "bar." Way cozier than a "dive." Just as authentic as the adventure you took to get there.

Red Dog Saloon | Jarbidge
Pioneer Saloon | Goodsprings
Lucky Spur Saloon | Kingston
Paradise Valley Saloon
Paradise Valley

**Dirty Dick's Belmont Saloon** *Belmont* 

#### **COFFEE & ESPRESSO**

Because sometimes gas station drip
just won't cut it.

The Roasting House | Virginia City
Cowboy Joe | Elko
The Roost | Eureka
Ghost Town Art & Coffee | Pioche
Colorado River Coffee Roasters
Boulder City

#### **BURGERS**

Every state does burgers. Nevada just does 'em better.

Beefy's | Reno S'Socorro's Burger Hut | Mina Racks Bar & Grill | Ely Middlegate Station | Middlegate
The Dillinger | Boulder City
Pioneer Saloon | Goodsprings

#### **DISTILLERIES**

When it comes to the "spirit of Nevada," we prefer to sip it.

**Verdi Local Distillery** | *Verdi* **Frey Ranch Estate Distillery** 

**10 Torr Vacuum Distillery** *Midtown Reno* 

Fallon Turn to Learn -

**Branded Hearts Distillery** *Reno* 

**Las Vegas Distillery**Henderson

#### **ICE CREAM AND MORE**

As if Nevada wasn't sweet enough...

Icecycle Creamery | Reno Scoups Ice Cream & Soup Bar Carson City

Chilly Jilly'z | Boulder City
Luv-It Frozen Custard | Las Vegas
Steve's Homemade Ice Cream

Fernley







# ESTATE OF THE



From "Grain-to-Glass" to "Farm-to-Flask," it doesn't get more "Drink Local" than sipping on something a mere cork's throw from where it grew. Of the USA's three estate distilleries, **two** are in Nevada. Meanwhile. all of Nevada's wineries produce estate vino.

#### **FREY RANCH ESTATE DISTILLERY**



Fifth-generation Nevada grain growers producing gin, vodka, bourbon, and more on their historic ranch.

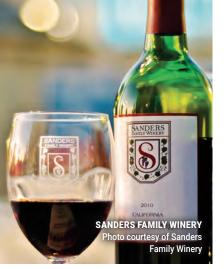
#### **BENTLY HERITAGE ESTATE DISTILLERY**

MINDEN | OPENING 2019

Carson Valley farmers converting sustainably-grown, heirloom winter grains into fine vodkas, gins, and beyond in a restored, LEED-certified, century-old flour mill.







WINE NOT HERE? Leave it to us trend-buckers to develop **desert-hardy grapes** that need a fraction of the water that their Napa cousins guzzle. Which is almost as cool as the fact that they actually taste great, too.



#### **PAHRUMP VALLEY WINERY**

#### PAHRUMP | OPEN DAILY

Nearly 30 years since the Sanders' Family pioneered grapes in the Mojave, this winery crushes 35+ tons of Nevada grapes into award-winning red and white varietals. In addition to free tastings and tours, you can get your Lucy-and-Ethel on at their annual Pahrump Grape Stomp each October.





#### CHURCHILL VINEYARDS FALLON | SAT, 12P-4P

Hot days and cool nights mean sugar-rich grapes ideal for lush reds and premium European-style whites, like Riesling, Gewürztraminer, and pinot gris—grown, harvested, and bottled at Frey Ranch.



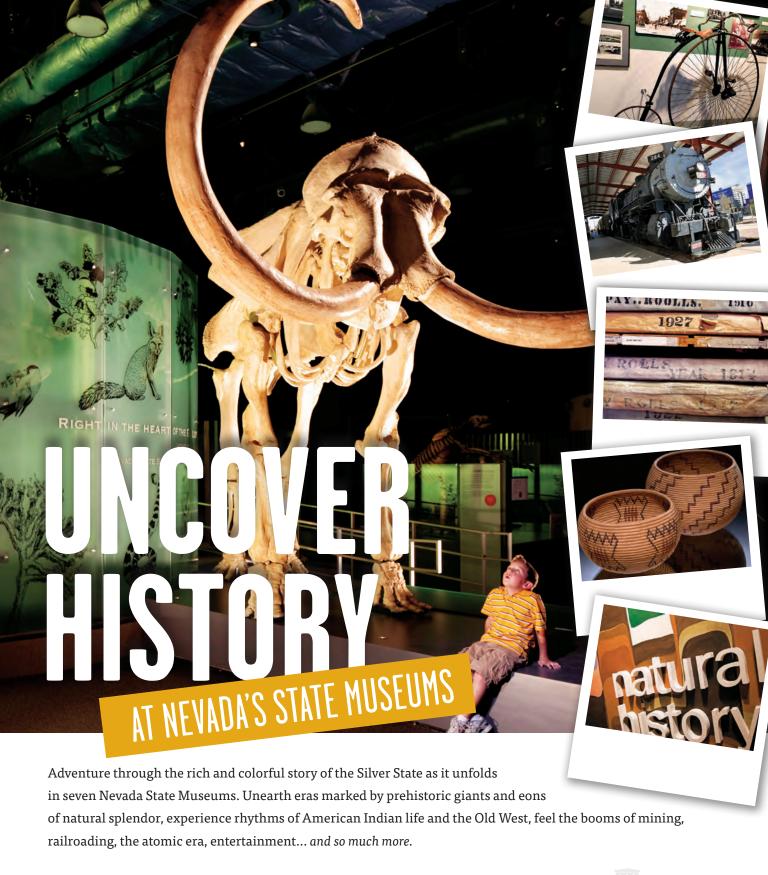
#### **SANDERS FAMILY WINERY**

#### **PAHRUMP | OPEN DAILY**

Bordered by panoramic views, beautiful Tuscan-style grounds make a lovely place to taste smooth, palatable reds and whites—as well as catch a live concert or theatrical production during the summer and fall.







# Where will your **NEVADA STORY** take you?

Visit **NVMuseums.org** for museum locations, exhibits, & events.

Become a Museum Member for **FREE admission** to ALL state museums.





# FIVE STANDOUT NEVADA MUSEUMS

By Nicole Rupersburg | Matador Network

MATADOR network

Nevada's kind of always been a monument to exceptions, extremes, and the freedom to be a little **(OK, a lotta)** bit different. Naturally, so are its cultural institutions. While you're out here making your own Nevada history, get lost in some backstory with the kinds of museums you'll wish your grade school teachers would've taken you to.



# WASHOE CLUB & HAUNTED MUSEUM

If you're after a remarkable piece of Nevada's haunted history—in a state believed to have a LOT of it—start with the Washoe Club in historic Virginia City. Built in the 1870s as a private club for the wealthy, what was aptly known as the "Millionaire's Club" is today considered one of the West's most haunted locations, earning it visits from Travel

Channel's Ghost Adventures and SyFy's Ghost Hunters. Visit the Haunted Museum and take the 40-minute guided tour of the whole building (offered daily), or conjure up your own ghost-hunting experience with a haunted lockdown with access to all three floors of the building—including the extrahaunted crypt and spiral staircase—for a few hours or even overnight.



A world-class museum located right between **Downtown's Riverwalk** and hip, bustling **Midtown**, the NMA is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, putting it in a club with The Met in New York and San Francisco's MOMA.



Find out more about the Nevada Museum of Art's Seven Magic Mountains on pg. 30-31

G: @MR MRSMO

Seven Magic Mountains

Founded in 1931, it's one of the oldest cultural institutions in the state, but it's anything but old-fashioned, with changing

exhibitions by national and international artists, a healthy dose of **Burning Man** sculptures and artifacts, and a permanent collection of more than 1,000 contemporary landscape photographs and works across nearly every medium imaginable. Oh, and those giant neon boulders you've seen on Instagram? That's part of NMA's Center for Art + Environment.

#### THE NEON MUSEUM | LAS VEGAS

This is the kind of museum that could only exist in Las Vegas. What began as simple storage of defunct neon signs (known as the "Neon Boneyard") has grown into a full-fledged museum, complete with a visitor center located in the salvaged atomic blast-shaped La Concha Motel lobby.

More than 200 rescued historic neon signs sprawl across the nearly two-acre Boneyard. You'll recognize some, even if you've never seen them in person:
Caesars Palace, the Moulin Rouge Hotel, the Golden Nugget...the list goes on. Hop on a guided hour-long tour any day—or better yet, night—of the week.

**TravelNevada PRO TIP:** Head to the **FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE** (not a tour, not even just a street—definitely an experience) to gaze at signs that have made it safely out of purgatory for a second life, glowing again in all their neon glory.





# BURLESQUE HALL OF FAME | LAS VEGAS

What began as the dream (and personal collection) of legendary burlesque performer Jennie Lee is now one of the only places in the world dedicated to preserving the legacy of "burly-q," while exploring the careers and lives of its performers and producers, from the early days on the vaudeville circuit to the art form's recent revival. At its new home in the Las Vegas Arts District, it's one of the

# BURLESQUE HALL OF FAME WEEKENDER

JUNE 6-9 | THE ORLEANS HOTEL & CASINO

A showcase of icons, all-stars, and all things burlesque, with vendors, classes and (of course) live burlesque entertainment.

largest collections of burlesque memorabilia, exhibiting thousands of costumes, props, photos, and personal belongings. If you're wondering, take it from them: it's "spectacular, erotic, and slightly shocking."

#### NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM | ELKO

Entering this 20,000-square-foot

facility is like walking into a history of everything that's ever gone down in the Silver State, as told through artifacts; American mastodon fossils; Shoshone and Paiute craftwork; Old West ranching, mining, and railroad displays; an entire authentic Pony Express cabin; and an exhibit chronicling the cultural legacy of the Basque community in northern Nevada. That's not even mentioning the humongous taxidermy installation, the gallery of original work by legendary Western artist Will E. James, and the exhibit on Hollywood golden

NORTHEASTERN

boy turned Elko-local Bing Crosby. Basically, this place is Nevada.

If you're curious about more

#WEIRDNEVADA

check out pg. 62-65



Just outside the state capital, between the years of 1890 and 1980, Stewart Indian School operated as Nevada's sole off-reservation Indian boarding school, the site of a mandatory chapter in the life stories of thousands of American Indian adolescents from Nevada and neighboring California.

#### However, that was then.

Today, in spite of their origins, the 63 stone buildings on this 110-acre property, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, stand together as a monument to the collective experience of many American Indians of the West, and to the perseverance of peoples to hold onto their culture and, ultimately, carry their traditions forward in the face of adversity. Nearly 40 years after its closing, this campus is now home to

the Nevada Indian Commission, as well as a number of fascinating ways to experience and appreciate this thread of Nevada history.



#### STEWART FATHER'S DAY POWWOW JUNE 14-16

Visit the campus on Father's Day weekend to witness (or join in) as the campus comes alive for its biggest annual event, featuring hundreds of dancers, dozens of arts and crafts vendors, Indian tacos, Stewart School alumni recognition, special events, and exhibits.





#### THE TALKING TRAIL

As you explore the campus, interpretive locations come to life, not simply with

interpretive signs detailing the Stewart Indian School experience, but also with the voices and stories of past students, teachers, and others who really lived it—thanks to a free audio tour accessed on any mobile phone. Comprising 20 stops, the trail stretches a little over half a mile on paved surface throughout this historical property.



Can't wait till you get here? Listen online: StewartIndianSchool.com/walking-trail



THINGS TO DO IN NEVADA

# STATE

Nevada's seven state museums tell the state's story from prehistory to statehood to modern day and focus on themes that set it apart — American Indian culture, railroading, mining, gaming, entertainment, and natural history.

#### NEVADA STATE MUSEUM | LAS VEGAS

#### lasvegasnvmuseum.org

Located on the beautiful **Springs Preserve** Campus, the museum features 15,000 square feet of permanent exhibit space and brings the history of Las Vegas to life in all its glory. The "Showgirl Wall" exhibit features the spectacular costumes once worn in iconic stage shows on The Strip.

#### **NEVADA STATE MUSEUM** | CARSON CITY

#### carsonnvmuseum.org

Housed in the former United States Branch Mint, the museum tells the state's history from prehistoric times to modern day. See the Mint's Coin Press No. 1 in action in demonstrations. The Natural History collection features animals from a prehistoric mammoth whose bones were found on the Black Rock Desert to an ichthyosaur, which swam the waters of ancient Lake Lahontan.

#### NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY | RENO

#### nvhistoricalsociety.org

The state's oldest cultural institution is home to the American Gaming Archives, a collection of gambling manufacturers' equipment, research materials, and ephemera. The Reno Gallery celebrates many of the city's iconic moments, characters, institutions, and structures. The society's research library is a resource for casual history buffs and scholars alike.









#### lostcitymuseum.org

Built on an actual archaeological dig site, the museum tells dual stories of ancient times and the 20th century, when the building of **Hoover Dam** changed the face of a wide swath of southern Nevada. The museum celebrates the history of the ancient Puebloans through artifacts including stone tools, arrowheads, basketry, and more.

# NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM CARSON CITY

#### carsonrailroadmuseum.org

A rare treat, this museum features restored and fully operational steam locomotives from 1875: the narrow-gauge Glenbrook and the standard-gauge Inyo. It also features the historic McKeen Motor Car, one of the only three National Historic Landmarks that moves.

# The Transcontinental Railroad connected a nation in May 1869, when the Golden Spike was driven in Promentory, Utah. Join the Nevada State Railroad Museums in Carson City, Boulder City, and Ely as we honor the event and 150 years of railroading history with special exhibits, events, and more. Visit Nevada150Railroad.com to see what's in store throughout the year.

# NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM BOULDER CITY

#### boulderrailroadmuseum.org

The Boulder Branch Line, built in 1931 for the construction of **Hoover Dam**, lives on. Open-air exhibits include an official railway post office car, while the hallmark of the museum is its passenger excursions. The seven-mile route takes 45 minutes and offers visitors views of the Eldorado Valley and Mohave Desert.

# EAST ELY RAILROAD DEPOT MUSEUM ELY

#### elyrailroadmuseum.org

The museum commemorates the era when the **Nevada Northern Railway** was in full operation for the mining camps of eastern Nevada. The Depot remains virtually untouched since the railroad's closure, offering a glimpse into the past. The museum also serves as a gateway to the Nevada Northern Railway, which operates rolling stock from the railroad's heyday.

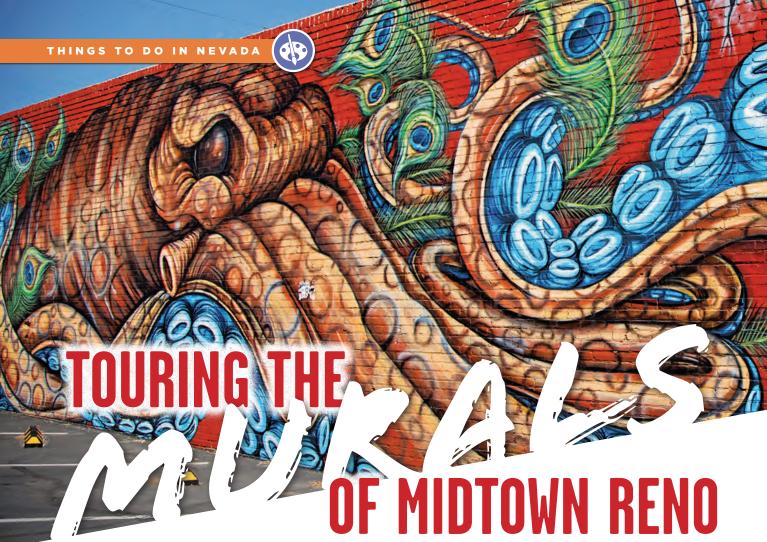












By Megg Mueller | Nevada Magazine

W hen we're young, many of us play with a jackin-the-box; with just a little persistence, we are continually delighted by the surprise that pops up.

Reno's Midtown Mural Tour is a bit like that; the payoff is worth the small effort required to see the beautiful, evocative, and generous murals sprinkled in this newly energized segment of the Biggest Little City.

The murals have been appearing for years, but it wasn't until Geralda Miller and Eric Brooks—co-curators of Art Spot Reno, a comprehensive website for the area's arts and events—expanded on Eric's impromptu tours for friends that the Midtown Mural Tour was created. Today, guided tours of the more than 80 murals happen the second Saturday of each month, and most tours include one of the muralists, along with Eric's encyclopedic knowledge of the works and artists.

As with many inner-city gentrification projects, the murals are taking on a life of their own; in a single summer, more than 20 murals were added to the mix, and more are being commissioned and painted each month. The vibrant

expressions of local, national, and international artists have been created out of artistic need, but also because savvy business people and artists have begun working together to bring new life to Reno's admittedly aging core.

The subjects run the gamut; from characters to portraits and everything in between. But there's one thing you won't find: graffiti.

"The difference between murals and graffiti is permission," Geralda says. "Murals are a deterrent to vandalism and tagging."



Find even more art throughout the Silver State on pg. 32-33

That permission has completely changed the face of Midtown, as businesses seek muralists to decorate their walls, which



in turn encourages the thriving artists' community Geralda and Eric are striving to support. A portion of the small charge

for the guided tour is given to the accompanying artist.

"We want to make sure artists in this area are getting paid,"

Geralda says simply. Her love for the arts fuels her goal to get the word out about this often-overlooked side to the city. Eric-one of Reno's most fervent ambassadors-concurs.

"Reno's public art collection is incredible. We may even have the highest percentage of public art per capita than any other city," Eric estimates. "We need to help develop the artists here, and we need to help keep them here."

# Reno is a year-round art town. It's become a true destination for the arts.

-Geralda Miller, Art Spot Reno

But for Geralda, Eric, and Art Spot **Reno,** one month is simply not enough to highlight all the incredible art events happening in Reno. "Reno is a year-round art town," Geralda says. "It's become a

found in downtown Reno (north of

Midtown), and the University of Nevada,

Reno is working on a mural tour also. The

city's annual Artown Festival reaches its

24th anniversary

this year, and as

this nationally

popular monthlong event each

recognized,

July is proud

is Artown.

of noting, Reno

true destination for the arts."

#### TAKE ME THERE **RENO MIDTOWN MURAL TOUR**

Second Saturday of the month, \$10 Check out ArtSpotReno.com for more information.

# CONTAGIOUS

Despite some stodgy attitudes of the past, more and more communities are realizing muralism isn't just urban "street art" or even just "urban."

# Case in point: Elko

Inspired by the gleaming success of the 2017 Reno Mural Expo-which transformed more than 20,000 square feet of wall space into vibrant art-the Elko Arts and Culture Advisory Council is partnering with Art Spot Reno, rustling up more than 20 artists to give their community a similar treatment, vivifying dozens of downtown walls with a range of artistic styles and subjects, some tapping into the area's rich, proud cultural history.



The inaugural Elko Mural Expo takes place Sept 26-29, all over town, with live painting on nearly 30 spaces, lectures, a film screening, workshops, docent-led mural tours, and live music.



If you're there before then, you can get a taste of what's coming with Erik Burke's kickoff mural (adorning Ogi Deli) of a Basque girl and aspen trees "carved" by the community's Basque elders-as well as of delicious Basque-style breakfast, lunch and pintxos inside.

Take in the Basque cuisine scene on pg. 36-37





#### THE RENO SCENE

Between a buzzing local music scene and the constant flow of touring acts, Reno often has tunes on tap any night of the week.

#### THE SAINT



Swanky joint with a big dance floor and their own beer on tap. Weekly music series and lots of shows.

#### **HOLLAND PROJECT**

All-ages cultural powerhouse and venue of choice for many nationally (and internationally) touring indie rock acts.

#### PIGNIC PATIO PUB (iii)



BYO meat to grill, then rock out to live folk or funk at this oldhouse-turned-bar.

#### in the showroom or barroom.

CARGO

Whitney Peak Hotel's 1,000-capacity concert hall for national and international touring acts.

JUB JUB'S THIRST PARLOR

Hamm's-in-cans rock-n-roll vibe; the

bands (psych, metal, punk, hip-hop)

go-to for louder local and touring

#### GRAND THEATRE



Grand Sierra Resort's shiny new stateof-the-art 2,700-seat theater is the main spot for the really, really big stuff.

Whether we're talking Rat Pack lounge legends, residencies from Elvis to Garth to Britney, or even The Killers naming their fourth album "Battle Born" after our state's nickname, Nevada has always struck a chord with music lovers. Today, the Silver State's music scene reverberates far beyond blockbuster stage shows and casino cover bands—or even just **Vegas** (though you can pretty much never NOT catch a great band there). Here are some of our favorite times and places to get your trip nice and tuned up.

# FESTIVALS

#### DUNCAN LITTLECREEK (iii) 🛞 🎇 **GALLERY & BAR**





This cowboy town's cultural hub is the place to be for everything from live music and open mic nights to poetry readings. A menu with more than 50 wines, dozens of solid brews, and infinite cocktail possibilities from its artful mixologists certainly helps, too.

#### WEST WENDOVER 🖨 🔯 📵





You might be pleasantly surprised what kind of country, soul, and classic rock stars make a point to play and party in this lively bordertown.

#### KEROUAC'S RESTAURANT [BAKER] 😭 💼 🔯

Park staff and guests from nearby Great Basin National Park-and just about the entire population of Baker-turn out for now-and-again Friday night concerts at this gourmet breakfast-and-dinner bistro and artisan cocktailery.

#### MIDDLEGATE STATION (iii) [MIDDLEGATE]





Turn up to this Pony-Express-stationturned-stagecoach-stop-turned-roadhouse along the Loneliest Road (closest town: Fallon, 50 mi) and you might get serenaded by local folk rock balladeer Paul Smith, or even swept into a late-night weekend dance party with a live country band.

# **BLOW YOUR FRIENDS' MINDS!**

npeted for during a particularly losive time in Nevada's past. **Learn** more about Atomic Nevada on pg. 60-61

#### **MORE MUSIC AROUND** THE STATE

#### CRYSTAL BAY CLUB [CRYSTAL BAY] (iii)

North Lake Tahoe's concert hotspot, especially for bluegrass, jam bands, funk, and electro-and killer afterparties!

# HARD ROCK LAKE TAHOE ..

[STATELINE]

Tahoe South's choice for A-list artists in the showroom or outdoor amphitheater.

#### LAUGHLIN (2) (1)



Check the calendars for the Laughlin Event Center and the Edgewater's E Center to see what household-name acts are playing this week for a . closer look at this Colorado River-side resort community.



#### NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

#### ELKO, JAN 28-FEB 2

One of the main draws of this town-wide full-participation celebration of authentic western cultural arts is intimate performances from the likes of Colter Wall, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Mike Beck, and other living Western musical legends.



#### **ELECTRIC DAISY CARNIVAL**

#### LAS VEGAS, MAY 17-19

Easily the biggest, greatest EDM fest in the US, EDC packs three days with stacked lineups, mesmerizing light and pyrotechnic shows, and more than 400,000 revelers dancing at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.



#### NIGHT IN THE COUNTRY

#### YERINGTON, JULY 25-27

Since 2002, this cowboy-hatted party-vibe campout has been bringing out big guns like Blake Shelton, Jason Aldean, and Thomas Rhett—plus plenty of up-and-comers—for three days of pure country music on pure Nevada farmland.



#### ARTOWN

#### RENO, ALL OF JULY

Deemed one of the US' most comprehensive arts events by the National Endowment for the Arts, this month-long, city-wide festival features dozens of free musical performances by rock, jam, blues, jazz, latin, reggae, and world music artists from around the planet.



#### **PSYCHO LAS VEGAS**

#### LAS VEGAS, AUG 16-18

Psych, groove, stoner, doom... From Alice Cooper to sunn 0))) to High on Fire, Las Vegas Weekly's voted "Best Festival" welds every prong of metal and heavy rock together under one roof—this year it's Mandalay Bay's.



#### **IHEARTRADIO MUSIC FEST**

#### LAS VEGAS, LATE SEPT • 2 DAYS

Chart-smashing artists from every major genre (think Justin Timberlake to T-Swift to Fleetwood Mac) take over T-Mobile Arena, with talented sure-to-emergers on the Daytime Stage.



#### LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL MUSIC & ART FESTIVAL

#### LAS VEGAS, SEPT 20-22

Three days of music—from major pop, hip hop, and indie rock acts—comedy, food, art, and workshops at stages, tents, and dens across 10 square blocks of Downtown Las Vegas.



#### OFF BEAT MUSIC FESTIVAL

#### RENO, OCT 3-5

The SXSW or Treefort of Reno, this "music discovery" fest packs 12+ Midtown venues with nearly 100 emerging regional and festival-circuit artists, spanning everything from psych rock to honky-tonk to retro soul.



#### **SNOWGLOBE**

#### STATELINE/LAKE TAHOE, EVERY NEW YEAR, DEC 29-31

Enjoying Tahoe's winter wonderland by day and dancing to topof-the-game DJs and hip hop MCs by night make this "literally and figuratively the chillest festival ever"—not to mention the best NYE party around.

Dates are subject to change.

# THERE MUST BE SOMETHING IN THE WATER















# 2019 SPECIAL EVENTS

Where and when to cut loose around the Silver State.

# JANUARY

**JANUARY 19-20** Fire & Ice Festival **Ely/Cave Lake State Park** ElyNevada.net



JAN 24-27 **Eagles & Agriculture Carson Valley** VisitCarsonValley.org

#### JAN 28-FEB 2

**National Cowboy Poetry Gathering** Elko

NationalCowboyPoetry Gathering.org



Cowboy... poetry? Don't worry. Bewilderment is common among folks who have yet to experience this welcoming, weeklong, town-wide celebration of authentic western cultural arts. However, show up and you'll see why thousands of people, cowboy types and otherwise, flock to Elko each winter for "six days of poetry, music, dancing, workshops, exhibits, conversations, food and fellowship."

# **FEBRUARY**

#### **FEBRUARY 7-10**

**Dam Short Film** Festival **BOULDER CITY** DamShortFilm.org

#### FEBRUARY 8-9

Chinese New Year in the Desert Las Vegas CNYInTheDesert.com

#### FEBRUARY 14-17

14th Annual Lover's Aloft **Balloon Race** 

Lovelock

LoversLock.com

#### **FEBRUARY 16-24**

Alpenglow Mountain Sports Festival

**North Lake Tahoe** 

AlpenglowSports.com

# MARCH

#### **FEB 28-MAR 10**

Snowfest!

**North Lake Tahoe** TahoeSnowFest.org





Get the complete event lineup at TravelNevada.com/Events Dates subject to change.

#### MARCH 16

**Rocky Mountain Oyster Fry** 

Virginia City

VisitVirginiaCityNV.com



# MARCH 16

St. Patrick's Day Concert & Afterparty at the Lucky Spur Saloon Rendezvous Kingston

#### **MARCH 20-23**

41st Annual International Mining Games

**Virginia City** 

VisitVirginiaCityNV.com



Shooting the West Winnemucca ShootingTheWest.org

#### **APRIL 25-27**

Laughlin River Run

Laughlin

LaughlinRiverRun.com

#### **APRIL 26-28**

Genoa Western Heritage Day

VisitCarsonValley.org

### MAY

#### **MAY 3-5**

Wild West Extravaganza & Bluegrass Festival **Pahrump** 

VisitPahrump.com

#### **MAY 18-19**

Chili on the Comstock & Fireball Saloon Crawl Virginia City

VisitVirginiaCityNV.com



**MAY 18-19** California Trail Days

CaliforniaTrailCenter.org

# **EVEN MORE EVENTS**

\*For those about to rock" see where and when to pack your festival clothes, or simply drop in on live local tunes, pg. 110-111.

MOUNTAIN BIKING
Bringing your (other)
wheels? Bomb it down
to these spoke-tacular
mountain bike bashes,
pg. 90-93.

#### **RODEO ROUNDUP**

From kids' mutton bustin' to full-on bullriding, local ranch hands to world championship pros, get wild at Nevada's best rodeos, pg. 38.

## JULY 22-27

**Damboree Celebration**Boulder City

VisitBoulderCity.org



**JULY 23-AUG 20** 

Perseid Meteor Shower Anywhere with a good, dark sky

### MAY 20-27 Jim Butler Days Tonopah

TonopahNevada.com



This truly Nevadan weeklong party honors the famed "Queen of the Silver Camps" founder (and his feisty donkey) with arm wrestling tournaments; the Nevada State Mining Championships; beer, wine, and whiskey tasting; live music; street dances; parades; and tons more.

#### **MAY 24-25**

15th Annual Best Dam Barbeque Challenge

**Boulder City** 

BestDamBarbecue.com

#### **MAY 24-26**

Run-A-Mucca Motorcycle & Music Festival

Winnemucca

Runamucca.com

#### **MAY 24-26**

Sacred Visions Powwow
Wadsworth

# JUNE

**JUNE 6-9** 

Carson Valley Days

**Carson Valley** 

VisitCarsonValley.org

#### **JUNE 7-9**

Street Vibrations
Spring Rally

Reno

RoadShowsReno.com

#### **JUNE 13-15**

Ely Air Races

Ely

ElyNevada.net

#### **JUNE 14-15**

Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews & Blues Festival

Reno

EldoradoReno.com



#### **JUNE 15-16**

Stewart Father's Day Powwow

**Carson City** 

StewartIndianSchool.com

# .IIII Y



JULY 1-31 Artown Reno Artown.org

#### JUL 5-AUG 25

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival

**Incline Village** 

LakeTahoeShakespeare.com



All the sand's a stage... at least when this much-loved annual celebration brings classical theatre to the beach at postcard-perfect **Sand Harbor State Park**, pg. 22-23.

#### TravelNevada PRO TIP:

As if watching theatre in this unbeatable "Big Blue" setting wasn't enough, sweeten the deal by packing the minicooler with a picnic dinner (and a bottle of vino), or hit up the tasty cafe.



#### **JULY 5-7**

National Basque Festival

ElkoBasqueClub.com

#### **JULY 9-14**

American Century Championship Celebrity Golf Tournament

Stateline

American Century Championship.com

# **AUGUST**

#### **AUGUST TBD**

Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & County Fair

**Fallon** 

FallonCantaloupeFestival.com

#### **AUGUST 1-4**

**Goldfield Days** 

Goldfield

GoldfieldNevada.org

#### **AUGUST 6-11**

**Hot August Nights** 

Reno

HotAugustNights.net

#### **AUGUST 8-9**

Jarbidge Days

Jarbidge

CowboyCountry.org



#### AUG 25-SEP 2 Burning Man

**Black Rock Desert**BurningMan.org

#### AUG 28-SEP 2

Best in the West Nugget Rib Cookoff

**Sparks** 

NuggetRibCookoff.com

# **SEPTEMBER**

#### SEPTEMBER 8-14

**Human Powered Speed** Challenge

**Battle Mountain** 

ihpva.org

#### SEPTEMBER 6-8

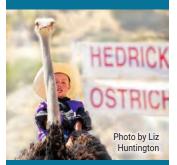
Great Reno Balloon Race Reno

RenoBalloon.com

#### SEPTEMBER 7

International Camel & Ostrich Races **Virginia City** 

VisitVirginiaCityNV.com



#### DOUBLE UP WITH THE DIE-HARDS

Each September, hundreds of hardcore Nevada-holics beat the sun to Rancho San Rafael Park for pre-dawn festivities, catch the Great Reno Balloon Race's iconic 7am "Mass Ascension," then pack up the blankets and blast on up to Virginia City in time for plenty of International Camel and Ostrich Races action and, inevitably, the "Camel Hump" on up to the C Street saloons.

#### SEPTEMBER 11-15

**National Championship** Air Races

Reno

AirRace.org

#### SEPTEMBER 12-15

Silver State Classic Car Race

Route 318

SilverStateClassic.com

#### SEPTEMBER 25-29

Street Vibrations Fall Rally

Reno

RoadShowsReno com

#### SEPTEMBER 26-28

Great Basin Astronomy Festival

Baker

GreatBasinNationalPark.com



# SEPTEMBER 26-29

Elko Mural Expo Learn more Flko

ExploreElko.com

ahout thic new exno on pg. 109

#### SEPTEMBER 28-29

Genoa Candy Dance 100th Anniversary

Genoa

GenoaNevada.org

# **OCTORFR**

#### **OCTOBER 3-6**

Laughlin International Film Festival

Laughlin

LaughlinFilmFestival.com

#### OCTOBER 5-6 Art in the Park **Boulder City**

VisitBoulderCity.com



100,000 art lovers can't be wrong about two days perusing endless displays of fine and traditional arts and crafts at one the Southwest's largest outdoor juried art festivals. Come for the fest, stay for Boulder City's Art Deco charm and killer cuisine scene, all just up the hill from Vegas and a short hop to Lake Mead and Hoover Dam.

#### OCTOBER 5-6

Pahrump Grape Stomp

**Pahrump** 

PahrumpWinery.com

#### OCTOBER 5-6

World Championship **Outhouse Races** 

Virginia City

VisitVirginiaCityNV.com

#### **OCTOBER 25-27 Beatty Days**

**Beatty** 

BeattyNevada.org

#### **OCTOBER 25-27**

**Nevada Day Celebration Carson City** 

NevadaDay.VisitCarsonCity.com



From live bands to block parties, chili feeds to fireblasting art cars, beard contests to single-jack rock drilling world championships, one seriously massive parade and more... if you thought Texans had pride, wait till you see the party that engulfs the state capital for the biggest, best state birthday bash in the nation.

# NOVEMBER

#### **NOVEMBER TBD**

Pomegranate Arts & Crafts Festival

Logandale

MoapaValleyArtGuild.net

#### **NOVEMBER 2-3**

Southern Paiute Veterans **Powwow** 

Moapa Valley

SoPVA.com

#### **NOVEMBER 5-7**

Nevada Open Golf **Tournament** 

Mesquite

CasablancaResort.com

#### **NOVEMBER 22-24**

Pahrump Social **Powwow** 

**Pahrump** 

VisitPahrump.com

#### **NOV-DEC HOLIDAY** SEASON

Northern Nevada Railway Polar Express

Ely

NNRY.com



#### **NOV-DEC HOLIDAY SEASON**

**V&T Polar Express Carson City-Virginia City** VTRailway.com

#### **NOV 29-DEC 31**

Northern Lights

**North Lake Tahoe** 

GoTahoeNorth.com

# DECEMBER

#### **DECEMBER 1-29**

Christmas on the Comstock

Virginia City

VisitVirginiaCitvNV.com

#### **DECEMBER 14**

Cowbov Christmas at the Mizpah

Tonopah

TonopahNevada.com

#### **DECEMBER 14**

Reno Santa Crawl

Reno

RenoSantaCrawl.com

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

155TH NEVADA DAY-155 YEARS OLD!

Some folks get Halloween... Thanks to that fateful October 31 in 1864, Nevadans get that AND a weekend-long "Admission Day" celebration.

150TH CITY OF ELY

It's Ely's sesquicentennial, but who's counting? Turns out, the whole town... with a whopping 150 sanctioned events going down through the year.

150TH TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD
NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUMS,
CARSON CITY, BOULDER CITY, EAST ELY DEPOT | YEARLONG

Join the Nevada State Railroad Museums in Carson City, Boulder City, and Ely as we honor the event and 150 years of railroading history.

100TH GENOA CANDY DANCE ARTS & CRAFTS FAIRE GENOA | SEP 28-29

What started as a fundraiser to bring street lights to Nevada's oldest settlement is now the valley's most popular art, craft, and community event.

100<sup>TH</sup> RENO RODEO RENO | JUN 20-29

It may be a modern town, but Reno still proudly marches cattle up its main drag to the arena for ten days of classic pro rodeo action.

60TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CAMEL & OSTRICH RACES VIRGINIA CITY | SEP 6-8

In 1959, the Territorial Enterprise published a fib (a cheeky proclivity of theirs leftover from the days Mark Twain graced the payroll). But when a team from San Francisco showed up, camels in tow, the bluff was called... and here we still are!

NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

See tradition respected and futures embraced with a lineup of renowned poets, musicians, filmmakers, artists, and revelers celebrating the living West.

WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO WINNEMUCCA | FEB 27-MAR 3

Real working buckaroos go spur-to-spur for prizes (and bragging rights) in Steer Stopping, Wild Mugging, Trailer Loading, Ranch Doctoring, and more.

**30**<sup>TH</sup> ELY RENAISSANCE VILLAGE & ART BANK ELY, ONGOING

Ten years in, Ely's muralist makeover and bank-turned-gallery earned an Arts District designation, one it's held down for another twenty since.

20TH HUMAN POWERED SPEED CHALLENGE BATTLE MOUNTAIN, SEP 8-14

Pilots of recumbent bikes in egg-like shells come from around the world to put the "Battle" in Battle Mountain and break land speed records.









**BE HERE** for Tahoe days and Hard Rock nights. Live in the moment. Experience the thrills of a rockin' getaway to Lake Tahoe. Whether you visit to shred down the slopes or relax on the lake, we offer memorable experiences with a rock n' roll flair year-round that will make your friends wish they were here too.

# **QBE HERE**

BOOK NOW & ENJOY 15% OFF OUR BEST AVAILABLE RATES. USE CODE: NV2019



HardRockCasinoLakeTahoe.com 844.588.7625

50 Highway 50, Stateline, NV 89449

\*Expires December 30, 2019. Standard blackout dates apply. Not valid with any other offer, promotion, or discount. Management reserves all rights, including to terminate this offer before the expiration date.



Whether you've been fantasizing about that big, beachfront Lake Tahoe ceremony (be real, since long before you ever even

met this guy), or you really just want Father "Elvis" to do his thing from a drive-through window, or anything else in between, Nevada's got your big day covered.

While many states make couples deal with a blood test and waiting period to get married, all Nevada really asks is that both people show up. You can even get a marriage license from any county clerk's office and go home hitched later that same day. But that's not the only reason couples bring their love to the Silver State.

Basically, if you can dream it, Nevada's wedding professionals can make it come true. (Heck, in 1982, a pair of window washers even tied the knot while dangling outside the 15th floor of Reno's Sands Regency).





# FOR MORE INFORMATION

View the Southern Nevada Wedding Guide at Ivweddingguide.com or visit the Las Vegas Wedding Chamber

of Commerce at WeddingChamber.vegas

Indeed, weddings (and don't forget photo shoots) held in beautiful natural settings, on charming old ranches, and other less conventional venues have gained tremendous popularity everywhere, and Nevada has no shortage of picture-perfect places to satisfy those desires. However, traditionalists will still be glad to discover that most of Nevada's wedding chapels are very formal and cater to lavish weddings, as well as smaller affairs.

Las Vegas is always a hot choice, with as wide a range of options as there are people selecting them, and pleases guests by making the whole "destination wedding" situation about as easy (and fun) as possible. Also, to minimize wedding-day stress, just about every major hotel offers packages that include a chapel, your officiant, rooms, food, and other matrimonial goodies. Fancy some extra flowers or a spa package to enhance the romance? Consider yourself accommodated.

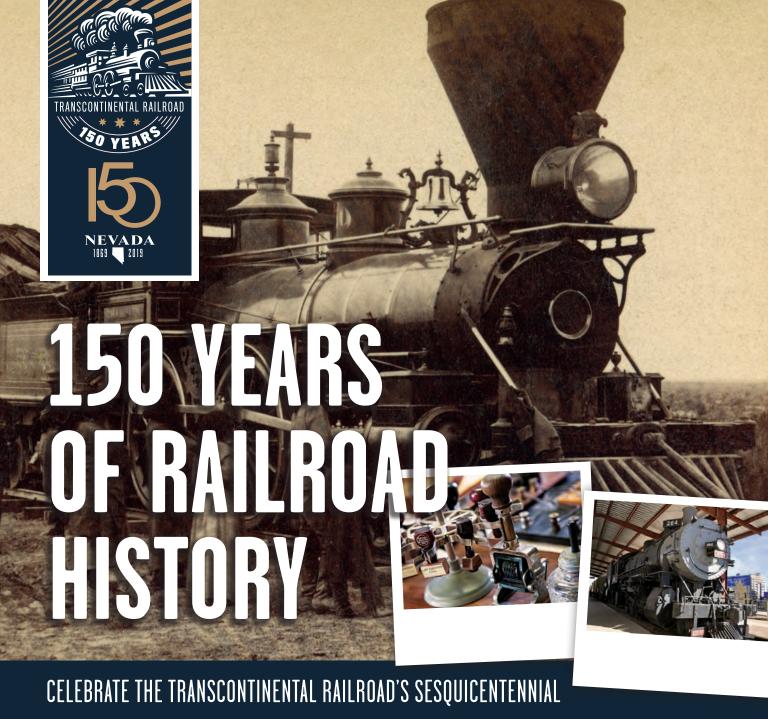
SPRING MOUNTAINS

Near Las Vegas



And then there's Lake Tahoe, one of the most beautiful locations in the world for a wedding (or really for anything), where many talented wedding planners are available to take care of every detail. Several resorts on the shores of the lake can also help you plan anything from a low-key ceremony at a beautiful mountain park to the most elaborate high-rise, lake-viewing extravaganza.

Nevada surely has something for everyone planning to get married and we welcome the opportunity to help you make the most of your special day.



The Transcontinental Railroad connected a nation in May 1869, when the Golden Spike was driven in Promentory, Utah. Join the **Nevada State Railroad Museums in Carson City, Boulder City, and Ely** as we honor the event and 150 years of railroading history with special exhibits, events and more.

Visit Nevada150Railroad.com to see what's in store throughout the year.

#### A special exhibit at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City will feature:

- ✓ Two original key steam locomotives from the era
- ✓ The Central Pacific RR Director's Car—the last surviving rolling stock to have witnessed the moment

Coming May 2019!



# **NEVADA TERRITORIES**

#### **COWBOY COUNTRY**

**BATTLE MOUNTAIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITOR BUREAU** 775-635-8245

battlemountainchamber.com

**CITY OF CARLIN** 

775-754-6354 explorecarlinnv.com

**ELKO CONVENTION & VISITORS** 

800-248-ELKO exploreelko.com

FRIENDS OF BLACK ROCK HIGH ROCK (GERLACH)

775-557-2900 visitgerlach.com

**JACKPOT RECREATION & TOURISM** 

775-755-2653 jackpotnevada.com

**JARBIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION** visitjarbidge.org

**LANDER COUNTY CONVENTION & TOURISM AUTHORITY** 

775-635-1112 landercountytourism.com

LOVELOCK/PERSHING COUNTY **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** 775-273-7213

loverslock.com

MCDERMITT INFORMATION 775-532-8742

**WELLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** 775-752-3540

wellsnevada.com

**WEST WENDOVER TOURISM & CONVENTION BUREAU** 

866-299-2489 westwendovercity.com

**WINNEMUCCA CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY** 

800-962-2638 winnemucca.com

**INDIAN TERRITORY** 

nevadaindianterritory.com

**FALLON PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBE** 775-423-6075

**GRIMES POINT ARCHAEOLOGICAL** SITE

775-885-6000 blm.gov

**INDIAN TERRITORY** 800-NEVADA-8

LAS VEGAS PAIUTE TRIBE

702-386-3926 lvpaiutetribe.com **LOST CITY MUSEUM** 

702-397-2193 lostcitymuseum.org

**NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, CARSON** 

775-687-4810 nvculture.org

**NEVADA URBAN INDIANS, INC.** 888-885-8447

nevadaurbanindians.org

**PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE** MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER 775-574-1088

plpt.nsn.us

**RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY** 

775-329-2936 rsic.org

**SHOSHONE PAIUTE TRIBES OF THE DUCK VALLEY INDIAN RESERVATION** 208-759-3100

STEWART FACILITY

775-687-8333 stewartindianschool.com

TE-MOAK TRIBE OF WESTERN SHOSHONE

775-738-9251 temoaktribe.com

**WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE** 775-773-2306

wrpt.us

**WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA** 

800-76-WASH0E washoetribe us

LAS VEGAS TERRITORY lvterritory.com

**BOULDER CITY TOURISM COUNCIL** visitbouldercity.com

CITY OF HENDERSON DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL ARTS AND TOURISM

877-775-5252 visithenderson.com

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION AND **VISITORS AUTHORITY** 

877-VISITLV visitlasvegas.com

**LAUGHLIN VISITOR INFORMATION** CENTER

800-4-LAUGHLIN visitlaughlin.com

**MESQUITE AREA CHAMBER OF** COMMERCE

702-346-2902 mesquitenvchamber.com

**NEVADA WELCOME CENTER AT** MESOUITE

877-MESOUITE visitmesquite.com

MOAPA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

702-398-7160 moapavalley.com

SEARCHLIGHT COMMUNITY CENTER

702-297-1682

**NEVADA SILVER TRAILS** nevadasilvertrails.com

BEATTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 866-736-3716 beattynevada.org

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK **FURNACE CREEK VISITOR CENTER & MUSEUM** 

760-786-3200 nps.gov/deva

**DEATH VALLEY NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION** 800-478-8564

dvnha.org

**GOLDFIELD CHAMBER OF** COMMERCE/HISTORICAL SOCIETY 775-485-3560

goldfieldnevada.org goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com

**GREATER LINCOLN COUNTY** (ALAMO, CALIENTE, PANACA, PIOCHE, RACHEL) lincolncountynevada.com

**MASON VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (YERINGTON)** 775-463-2245

masonvalleychamber.org

MINERAL COUNTY CONVENTION AND TOURISM AUTHORITY (HAWTHORNE)

775-945-5854 visitmineralcounty.org

PIOCHE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE piochenevada.com

**TOWN OF PAHRUMP** visitpahrump.com

TOWN OF TONOPAH tonopahnevada.com

**PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY** ponyexpressnevada.com

**GREATER AUSTIN CHAMBER OF** COMMERCE

775-964-2200 austinnevada.com

**DAYTON AREA CHAMBER OF** COMMERCE 775-246-7909

daytonareachamberofcommerce.com

**FALLON CONVENTION & TOURISM AUTHORITY** 

775-423-4556 visitfallonnevada.com

FERNLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 775-575-4459

fernleychamber.org

**GREAT BASIN BUSINESS AND** TOURISM COUNCIL (BAKER) greatbasinpark.com

**GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK** 

775-234-7331 nps.gov/grba

TOWN OF EUREKA

visiteurekanevada.com

WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM & **RECREATION BOARD (ELY)** 

800-496-9350 elynevada.net

RENO-TAHOE TERRITORY

renotahoe.com

CARSON CITY CONVENTION AND **VISITORS BUREAU** 

800-NEVADA-1 visitcarsoncity.com

**CARSON VALLEY VISITORS AUTHORITY** 

800-727-7677 visitcarsonvalley.org

**TOWN OF GENOA** 775-782-8696 genoanevada.org

**INCLINE VILLAGE/CRYSTAL BAY VISITORS BUREAU (INCLINE** VILLAGE)

800-GO-TAHOE gotahoenorth.com

**LAKE TAHOE VISITORS AUTHORITY** (SOUTH LAKE TAHOE) 800-AT-TAHOE bluelaketahoe.com

**NORTH LAKE TAHOE VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU** 

800-462-5196 gotahoenorth.com

RENO-SPARKS CONVENTION & VISITORS AUTHORITY 800-FOR-RENO visitrenotahoe.com

VIRGINIA CITY TOURISM COMMISSION 800-718-SLVR visitvirginiacitynv.com

# **NEVADA**



## NEVADA IS JUST A FLAT OL' DESERT...

Millions of visitors do indeed flock to our desert wonderlands, like Red Rock Canyon pg. 16-17, 🖎 Valley of Fire pg. 72-73, and the 🍪 Black Rock Desert pg. 48-49 each year and go home mesmerized. But here in the most mountainous state in the Lower 48 pg. 40-41, those majestic landscapes are just the tip of the sandstone...

# THE ONLY THING THERE IS THE LAS VEGAS STRIP...

**Pssh, please.** Not only are **\Pi Las Vegas' other districts pg**. 32 worlds of excitement unto themselves, but wait till you've slipped beyond the glow of our largest city and (ii) (iii) "saloon-crawled" in Virginia City pg. 24-25, hip-checked your scene cred in art-fueled Reno pg. 50, bombed if fresh singletrack in Caliente pg. 90-91, swapped rhymes with cowboys in Elko pg. 42, or found true clarity at Lake Tahoe pg. 22-23... then come talk to us. (But only so we can send you off on even more only-in-Nevada adventures.)

# PEOPLE JUST GO THERE TO GAMBLE...

Granted, we do have the most incredible casino-resorts on Earth. But with millions of acres of wilderness pg. 46-47, unique parks pg. 72-75, heart-stealing towns pg. 18-19 (both living and... otherwise pg. 88-89), some seriously unusual history pg. 60-61, something going on pg. 112-115 just about everywhere you go, and more envysparking scenery pg. 54-55 than you can shake a selfie stick at, your

> chances of a one-of-a-kind, story-filled payoff are hovering right around 100%.

# IT'S HOT LIKE ALL THE TIME...

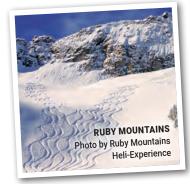
Well, maybe; but only right where you want it to be pg. 86-87. Thanks to Nevada's wildly diverse landscapes, few places offer as wide a

range of \*\* winter action pg. 96-97. Likewise,

no matter the season, you can always find somewhere amazing to explore, be that on two wheels pg. 92-93 or

four pg. 94-95—or with (1) two limbs pg. 76-79 or

more pg. 82-83. And, weather or not, if chilling indoors is your jam, we know a 📵 few intriguing places to do that, too pg. 103-107.





Sure, kinda... if you consider about 450 miles "just up the road"—which, here in the Road Trip Capital of the USA, you bet we do. Because, whether you find yourself **(11)** ghost town-hopping pg. 88-89 at golden hour, or 😝 getting weird in a "car forest" pg. 62-65, or bravely taking your 🍥 first picon punch pg. 37 to the stomach, or refueling with a 💟 **mom-and-pop miracle meal** pg. 98-99, or simply full-on falling for whatever surprises you encounter traveling this wild state, the point is: even with our wealth of world-class, vacation-worthy destinations, Nevada just makes that journey part so damn fun.

IG: @AMANDAKAMACHI

ereat Basin National Park

IG: @BEAUROGERSPHOTO

# The only place where laidback doesn't mean you have to go without lakefront luxury.



Edgewood Tahoe was ranked No. 1 Resort Hotel in the 2018 Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards, honoring the top travel destinations and companies around the globe as rated by its readers. Opened in 2017 on the shores of Lake Tahoe and alongside the historic

Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course, Edgewood Tahoe offers an exceptional level of luxury. Go to Edgewood Tahoe.com or call 833.296.0215 to book your mountain getaway.

Laidback. Lakefront. Luxury.

